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FOR THE LITERARY MAGAZINE.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF JOHN ADAMS.

(WITH A PORTRAIT.)

JOHN ADAMS is a descendant of one of the first families who founded the colony of Massachusetts Bay, in 1630. He was born at Braintree, in Massachusetts, October 19th, 1735.

He was by profession a lawyer; and such were his abilities and integrity, that he obtained the confidence of his fellow citizens. He early signalized himself in the defence of the rights of his country, and of mankind at large, by writing a Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Laws, a work well adapted to convince the advocates either for civil or ecclesiastical tyranny.

The zeal and firmness with which Mr. Adams defended the liberties of his country, did not prevent his acting in the service of her enemies, where he thought they were treated with too much severity. Called upon by his profession, he stood forth as the advocate of Capt. Preston, who had been imprisoned as the murderer of some of the citizens of Boston, on the memorable 5th of March, 1770. His client's cause was most unpopular. The whole town had been in a state of irritation, on account of the conduct of governor Hutchinson, and the troops which were stationed in it. Their resentment now burst into a flame. But he felt the cause to be just; and the danger of incurring the displeasure of his countrymen could not deter him from undertaking it. He conducted the cause with great address, by keeping off the trial till the passions of the people had time to subside. The trial at length commenced, and lasted several days, during which he displayed the most extensive knowledge of the laws of his country, and of humanity; and at the conclusion he had the satisfaction of proving to Great Britain herself, that the citizens of Massachusetts would be just and humane to their enemies, amidst the grossest insults and provocations. Capt. Preston was acquitted.

He was a member of the first congress in 1774; and was one of the principal promoters of the famous resolution of the 4th of July, 1776, which declared the American colonies free, sovereign, and independent states.

Having been for a considerable length of time one of the commissioners of the war department, and a principal suggestor of the terms to be offered to France, for forming a treaty of alliance and commerce, he was sent to the court of Versailles, as one of the ministers plenipotentiary of the United States, to consummate that important business.

On his return from France he was called upon by Massachusetts to assist in forming a plan of government; and to him this state is chiefly indebted for her present constitution.

After this important business was accomplished, he returned to Europe, vested with full powers from congress to assist at any conference which might be opened for the establishment of peace; and he soon after received other powers to negociate a loan of money for the use of the United States, and to represent them as their minister plenipotentiary to the States General of the United Provinces.

While in Europe, Mr. Adams published his work upon the constitutions of America, in which he advocates, as the fundamental principles of a free government....equal representation, of which numbers, or property, or both, should be the rule....a total separation of the executive from the legislative power, and of the judicial from both....and a balance in the legislature, by three independent, equal branches. His grand principle is, "That the people's rights and liberties, and the democratical mixture in a constitution, can never be preserved without a strong executive; or, in other words, without separating the executive power from the legislative."

He was called, in 1789, by the choice of his country, to the vice-presidency of the United States, and in November, 1796, was chosen president, in the room of general Washington. At the expiration of the usual term, he retired to the walks of private life, in which he will probably close a career as active, important, and diversified, as has fallen to the lot of almost any individual of the present age.

We purposely avoid entering into an exhibition of the public character of Mr. Adams, because political zeal has long since enlisted all men in the number of his friends or enemies, and we are desirous of avoiding, on this occasion, to offend any.

For the Literary Magazine.

VOLNEY'S TRAVELS IN AMERICA.

To the Editor, &c.

I SEND you a translation of the most material passages in Volney's preface to his Travels in America, which have just appeared at Paris. A work of this nature is of great importance to our national reputation abroad; it must therefore be universally interesting to know in what colours we have been drawn by one, whose portrait, whatever be its absurdities and blemishes, will undoubtedly be more multiplied, farther diffused, and generally credited than the work of any other painter. I shall make no comment on any of its lines or shades, but leave your impartial readers to view the scene, uninterrupted and unbiassed. Yours,

A. B.

THE following work, says Mr. V. is the fruit of a residence of three years in the United States, which took place in circumstances widely different from those of my residence, twenty years ago, in Turkey. In the year 1783, I embarked at Marseilles, with all the gaiety of heart, all the cheerful and aspiring hopes natural to youth. I exchanged, without regret, a land of plenty and peace for a region of anarchy and desolation, actuated merely by a thirst of useful knowledge, and a desire to employ the restless and inquisitive period of youth, in making provision for the consolation and embellishment of age. In the year 1795, I embarked at Havre for America, with all the dreary feelings that flow from the observation and experience of persecution and injustice. Saddened by the past, anxious for the future, I set out for a land of freedom, to discover whether liberty, which was banished from Europe, had really found a place of refuge in any other part of the world.

In this frame of mind, I visited almost every part of the United States, studying the climate, the laws, the people, and their manners, chiefly in the relations of so-

cial and domestic life; and such was the contrast which the scene before me bore to that which I had left, that I resolved to make it my future residence. France, and indeed Europe in general, presented to my view nothing but a gloomy and tempestuous prospect: a series of endless and obstinate wars, between expiring prejudices and newborn knowledge, between antiquated privileges and popular claims..... Here I beheld nothing but a splendid prospect of future peace and happiness, flowing from the wide extent of improveable territory; from the facility of procuring property in land; from the necessity and the profits of labour; from the liberty of action and industry; and from the equity of the government, a virtue which it owes to its very weakness. Here, therefore, I resolved to remain, when, in the spring of 1798, there broke out so violent an animosity against France, and a war seemed so inevitable, that I was obliged to withdraw from the scene.

I might here complain of the violent and public attacks made upon my character, with the connivance, or at the instigation of a certain eminent personage, during the last days of my residence in America; but the election of 1801 has reversed the scene that took place in 1797, and is to me an ample atonement for all that I have suffered. I cannot, however, forbear dwelling on the folly of the suspicions with which I was loaded. I was stigmatised as the emissary of a government, whose axe was continually falling on the necks of those whose conduct and opinions resembled mine. They fancied that I was engaged in a conspiracy (*me*, a single solitary Frenchman) to throw Louisiana into the hands of the directory, which, at that time, had scarcely an existence, in defiance of the testimony of a thousand witnesses, the most respectable in Kentucky, as well as in Pennsylvania and Virginia, who knew my sentiments to be entirely hostile to such a transfer of territory. They knew that I regarded the scheme as visionary and delusive, and dreaded it as tending to embroil us with the United States, and to strengthen their bias toward England. It was well known to be my opinion, that its settlement would be expensive and precarious, its defence difficult, on account of our languishing marine, and the instability of our government; and that it could not fail, sooner or later, of blending itself with the nation contiguous to it, and which alone possesses the adequate means of governing, peopling, and defending it. These notions, so contrary to those of most of our ministers and statesmen, exposed me to their hatred, and almost to their persecution. Nevertheless, I continued to maintain them when there was no small danger in doing so; for which I may now take some credit to myself, since these principles have since been sanctioned and adopted by the highest authority.

On my return to France, I conceived the design of a work as advantageous to my countrymen, as it would be useful to myself; which was that of comparing my own observations and reflections with those already scattered through various publications, in order to detect and remove some errors, adopted in moments of enthusiasm. After laying a suitable foundation in an examination of the climate and soil, I proposed, agreably to the most natural and instructive method, to consider the numbers of the people, their diffusion over the surface of their territory, their distribution into classes and professions, their manners as influenced by their actual situation, and by the habits and prejudices derived from their ancestors. By simply tracing their history, laws, and language, I proposed to detect the error of those, who represent, as a sort of new-born race, as an *infant nation*, a mere medley of adventurers from all parts of Europe, but more especially from the three British kingdoms. The composition of these worn out and motley ele-

ments, into one political body, would have led me to explain briefly the formation of each colony, to pourtray their founders, to analize those early principles, which have run through all their institutions, and which exemplify the common observation, that early habits and impressions modify the whole existence of collective bodies, as well as of individuals. We should thus have discovered the sources of that diversity, which grows daily more conspicuous in the character and conduct of the different parts of the *union*.

In a brief review of the circumstances attending the claim of independence, many new remarks would have been suggested as to its real nature and consequences. Many striking resemblances would have presented themselves between the American and French revolutions, which have hitherto escaped superficial observers. In the motives and conduct of parties, and the means they used, we discover a manifest resemblance. There will appear the same fluctuation of views and interests, the same ultimate decline of public spirit. Even in the character of the three successive national assemblies, both nations present the same picture; the first of these having outstripped, and the last having fallen short of the knowledge and improvements of a whole generation. We shall one day learn that the great national commotions called *revolutions*, are not so much the creatures of prudence and design, as mechanical effects produced by the impulse and collision of the passions.

In discussing the events, so little known, of the period that elapsed from the revolution to the establishment of the federal government, I should have shown in what manner the national character was influenced by that season of disorder; the changes in public opinion, wrought by an inundation of returning royalists, and of mercantile adventurers from Europe; the depravity of manners and corruption of principles, flowing from the creation of paper-money; the weakness of the laws; and from the transient wealth and permanent luxury which the wars in Europe poured into a neutral country. I should have explained the influence of European wars on the prosperity of these states; the benefits they have visibly acquired, in spite of their feeble and disjointed government, from the last war; the obvious advancement of their power and ambition towards the West Indian isles and the neighbouring continent; and their probable aggrandizement in future, notwithstanding their internal factions and divisions. I should have explained that disjunction of interests and views, and contrariety of habits, which already separate the eastern from the southern, the Atlantic from the Mississippi states; the preponderance of the mercantile interest in the one, and the agricultural in the other; the weakness of the *south*, from the prevalence of slavery; and the strength of the *east*, the fruit of private freedom and industry. I should have dwelt upon the grand source of their divisions, in their jarring political systems, which have split the nation into federalists and republicans; the former maintaining the superiority of monarchical, or rather of despotic principles of government, over all others; the necessity, in all governments, of an absolute and irresistible power, created by the headstrong passions and incurable ignorance of the multitude, and sanctioned by the example or experience of all nations; a power raised upon a politico-religious foundation, like that claimed by the Stuarts of England: the latter asserting that absolute power is the primary source of national vice and misery; that those who exercise it are exempt from none of the errors and passions of their fellow-mortals, but, on the contrary, that it manifestly tends to produce, diffuse, and perpetuate these errors and these passions, both in the master and the slave. Unlimited authority always runs into tyranny and frenzy, and is the

parent of that popular corruption for which it is the boasted antidote. If men are by nature degenerate and vicious, these evils can only be corrected by reason and justice, and create a stronger necessity for a wise and equitable government, and this is attainable only by ardent and general discussion and enquiry, by the utmost freedom of consultation and opinion among all who partake the same common nature. In short, the doctrines of this party are contained in the declaration of rights, on which the constitution of the United States is built.

I should have enquired into the consequences to be dreaded from these dissentions: whether the dismemberment of this vast body into a few powerful parts would be as dangerous to the general peace and safety as is commonly imagined; whether liberty and energy be not impaired by a combination so very compact and entire; whether a youthful nation may not be corrupted by such profound security, such unvarying prosperity; whether that *youth*, which they are so prone to attribute to their nation, be not more strongly indicated by their lively and ambitious hopes, than by their actual weakness; and whether it does not chiefly appear in that insolence and inexperience with which they greedily devour the goods of fortune, and hearken to the blandishments of flattery.

I should then have considered the conduct of this people and their government, from 1783 to 1798, in a moral view, and should have proved, by the plainest facts, that this conduct has not been suitable to the magnitude of their numbers and territory, to the importance of their situation and their duties; that they have shown less frugality and order in their expences, less integrity in their transactions with strangers, less public decency, less moderation and forbearance in their factions, less discipline in their seminaries of education, than most of the old nations of Europe. That what they are able to show of meritorious and useful, what portion they have of public or private security and liberty, they principally owe to popular and individual habits, to a casual equality of conditions, to the necessity of diligence, and the high price given for labour. That the character and principles of their leaders have deplorably degenerated; that, in 1798, very little more was wanting to one of the parties, but a suitable occasion and favourable means, in order to subvert the whole structure built up by their revolution. That they are indebted, for their public and private prosperity, more to their remote and disconnected situation, to their distance from powerful neighbours and the theatre of war, to a lucky and fortuitous concurrence of events, than to the wholesome vigour of their laws, or the wisdom and discretion of their governors.

These will doubtless be thought very daring assertions, after all the eulogies lavished on this people by their own writers, and by those of Europe, and after the motion made in congress, to decree that *their nation is the wisest and most enlightened upon earth**; but as censure does not always flow from envy or malice, as undeserved blame is less hurtful than unmerited praise, and since I cannot now be suspected of resentful or sinister motives, I might have ventured to utter truths, which, though harsh, would not have been denied by impartial readers: particularly as, in thus performing the office of a monitor, I should have given my warmest applause to that by which the United States is most gloriously distinguished, *the liberty of opinions and of the press.*

In viewing this country, as a refuge for Frenchmen, I should have delivered the dictates of my own experience and that of many of my countrymen, as to the resources and amusements which our merchants and our wealthy idlers would meet

* Where is the record of this motion to be found?—TRANS.

with in the cities, and what enjoyments the country would afford them. It might appear absurd, but I should not hesitate, to dissuade my countrymen from following my own example. The truth is, that, in this country, as many facilities and benefits attend the settlement of the English, Scots, Germans, and even Hollanders, from the resemblance that prevails between their manners and habits and those of America, as there are disadvantages and obstacles, flowing from a contrariety in these respects, attending natives of France. I have observed, with much regret, none of that friendly and brotherly good-will, in this people, towards us, with which some writers have flattered us. On the contrary, they appear to me to be strongly tinctured with the old English prejudice and animosity against us; a spirit exasperated by the ancient wars of Canada; imperfectly suspended by their alliance with us, during their *rebellion;* and revived, of late years, with uncommon force, by the declamations of their orators, by the addresses of their towns and corporations to president Adams, on occasion of the pillage suffered by their commerce from our privateers, and even by public exercises and oratorical invectives in their colleges. There is nothing in the social forms and habits of the two nations that can make them coalesce. They tax us with levity, loquacity, and folly; while we reproach them with coldness, reserve, and haughty taciturnity; with despising those engaging and sedulous civilities, which we so highly value, and the want of which are construed by us into proofs of impoliteness in the individual, or of barbarism in the whole society. Yet the latter charges must have some foundation, since they are often made by German and English travellers, as well as by ourselves. I, who had been already, by my residence among the Turks, in a great measure delivered from slavery to forms, was more disposed to scrutinize the cause, than to repine at the effect, and to me this national incivility appears to flow, less from a proud or unsocial temper, than from the mutual independence of each other, and the general equality as to fortune and condition, in which individuals in America are, for the most part, placed.

Such was my plan: some branches of which I have been able to accomplish, but my recent engagements, both of a public and private nature, will not permit me to complete the whole. I have therefore resolved to publish at present only that part of my work which may be detached, without injury or mutilation, from the entire performance.

In sending this work abroad, I am far from indulging those sanguine hopes, which many readers may ascribe to me. The splendid success of my *Travels in Egypt*, so far from inspiring me with confidence, in the issue of similar undertakings, contributes rather to a contrary effect; my present theme being much less diversified and entertaining; more grave, abstruse, and scientific; and there always being an abundance of readers who feel and act like the Athenian, whose voice was for punishment, merely because he was tired of hearing Aristides called *the just*.

I have sometimes even thought it most prudent to write no more; but I likewise reflected, that to have once done well, affords no excuse for doing nothing the rest of our lives; that I owe all the consolations I possessed in adversity to books and study, and all the benefits of my present situation to literature and the good opinion of the liberal and ingenious. I offer them, therefore, this last tribute of my gratitude, this final testimony of my zeal for the advancement of knowledge.

I have prepared myself, in what I have written and published, to meet a great deal of obloquy from the Americans themselves, whom their own cause will inspire with zeal, and who make it their favourite business to combat European writers. They act as if they were the advocates and avengers of their

predecessors, the Indians. Their zeal likewise is inflamed, by all those anti-gallican prejudices, which are industrious in decrying every thing that comes from a nation of atheists and jacobins; but time, which changes every thing, will do justice to detraction as well as flattery: and since I never pretended to be infallible, I shall content myself with having directed some attention, and cast some new light, upon many subjects that have been hitherto wholly overlooked.

For the Literary Magazine.

DEATH OF HAMILTON.

THE present month is distinguished by one of the most memorable and disastrous events that ever occurred; the death of a great and illustrious person, not by some inevitable casualty, or some ordinary disease, but by the pistol of a rival, in open day, and after a full pause of mutual preparation.

The abhorred and sanguinary prejudice, vulgarly called *honour*, offers to the understanding, in the influence it is found to have over strong and enlightened minds, a paradox the most bewildering and humiliating that ever existed.....While reason and common sense exclaim against the *folly* of duelling: while religion with its loudest voice, condemns its *iniquity:* while the civil laws of the state load it with the heaviest penalties, and rank it with the foulest and deadliest crimes of which human nature is capable: while so strong is the current of popular opinion against it, that no one is hardy enough to be its public defender or apologist, we daily see men that fill the first rank in a great state making this appeal to violence, fearless of legal prevention and legal penalties. We see the newspapers detailing the incidents of the combat, and self erected judges of merit passing censure on the timidity, or applause upon the courage with which the laws of the country, and the dictates of morality and common sense, are trampled on by the combatants.

The death of *Hamilton* must ever be regretted as a deplorable event. Every admirer of personal and public excellence must have lamented the death, had it taken place, even in infirmity and old age. What then must be the grief excited by his fall in the very flower of his days, the meridian hour of his usefulness, and from the zenith-place of his glory! And what new astonishment and sorrow must we feel, when the manner of his death is considered!

The wise and good, while they lament *this* death for its own sake, will regard it with peculiar regret, when they reflect that the example of a Hamilton has thus been given to the inhuman and pernicious practice of duelling.

We see that even a Hamilton could acknowledge, in the most deliberate manner, and in the solemn moments of impending death, by his tongue and his pen, that his acceptance of the challenge was a *necessary* and *unavoidable* act. Though his conscience and his reason might condemn the giving of a challenge in any case, and *perhaps* the acceptance of it in many, here is irresistible proof that duelling is, in some cases, *necessary* and *unavoidable*..... Fully conscious of his danger; predetermined not to prevent it by the death of his antagonist; firmly persuaded of the rectitude of that conduct which awakened the bloody and illegal vengeance of an individual, he conceived himself bound to obey the call, and to open his breast to the weapon of his adversary. This obligation was too strong for the duty which he owed his family, his friends, his country, mankind at large, and himself. And since it was thus strong in *Hamilton;* since, in his case, it was an overpoise for the claims far stronger and more numerous than can occur in any other case; what irresistible plea does his example furnish to men similarly situated!

In ordinary cases there is a reputation for courage to be established, there are the horrors of infamy to shun. In Hamilton's case there could be no such motive. His reputation for courage could not be shaken..... Instead of infamy, the truest glory would have crowned his refusal of a challenge. Nobody, whose esteem he valued, would have refused their acclamations. And the influence of his example would have operated with as irresistible a force to *discourage* the practice as it now does to *promote* it.

Alas! that men are not uniformly good: that the greatest minds are sometimes enslaved by the most deplorable errors; the grossest illusions. To thee, illustrious shade! our homage is due. With all thy faults, and with this greatest of defects, thou deservest a place among the first of human beings; but wert thou still living, and were thy life a public and immortal testimony of the enormous folly and inexpiable guilt of *accepting a challenge*, thou wouldst truly have been the boast of thy country, the delight of human nature, and the benefactor of posterity.

For the Literary Magazine.

To the Editor, &c.

I send you a letter written by an old friend, which, for the style and sentiments it breathes, does not fall behind the true epistolary spirit of any letter I have met with. Compositions of this kind, free, spirited, and familiar, will please judicious readers more than the most formal and elaborate compositions.

Morris Town, N. Jersey, Oct. 20, 1801.

HAVING at length reached the summit of my wishes, that is to say, having reached the top of the mountain, up whose stony sides I have been laboriously clambering, I take out my pencil and a scrap of paper, to have a little communication with a distant friend.

I am now sitting on the ruins of a small fortification, erected by Washington in the year 1777, after his brilliant exploit at Trenton and Princeton, when he retired to winter quarters with his little army to this place. I can just remember seeing the hardy soldier climbing this wood-crowned hill, with the axe on his shoulder instead of the musket, to fell the leafless tree, and prepare the frame of the parapet.

This eminence displays an extensive prospect, and I have a full view of those groves and fields that were once the scenes of my youthful gambols.

Wherever I turn my eyes, some little incident of my childish days is suggested to my recollection. On the brow of yonder declivity that terminates the plain which spreads from the foot of this mountain, stands the school-house where I first learned to frame the letters I am now linking together. How often have I frolicked in that church-yard hard by, and tried my agility in bounding with a straddling leap over those mossy grave-stones! Adown that hill how often have I glided on the boy-built sleigh! Along that path, how I used to gallop at my release from school; and just on that level spot, now strewn with autumnal leaves, many a time have I doffed my clothes to paddle in the shallow brook that runs into yonder mill-pond.

These recollections, after an interval of twenty years, excite in my bosom some very powerful sensations. I suppose they are usual in all minds of common sensibility. If I had always remained in the same place, no such feelings would have been experienced; but having been so long absent from those objects to which I owe my earliest impressions that are associated with rural beauty or innocent diversion, their re-appearance is not only accompanied with many of their original attractions derived from novelty, but they seem invested with some magic charms borrowed from recollection, that neither novelty nor intrinsic

beauty can ever bestow. It is in such moments that I fall into some speculations on personal identity..... When I call to mind certain incidents, Is it possible (say I) that A. B. the little boy that I remember used to play about that school-house twenty years ago, is the same creature who is now sitting on this log? It cannot be, for he never would have borne the insolence of pedagogues, the rude clown's wrongs, the big boy's contumely, and all the thousand nameless indignities that passive childhood from the oppressor takes. From considerations of this sort, I conclude, you may be sure, that I am totally and essentially different from what I was then, and that therefore to make one accountable for the follies of those days, would be as unjust as to punish one man for the faults of another.

I wish most ardently that it was in my power to accompany you in your intended tour to the southward, but several insurmountable obstacles will debar me from this pleasure. I shall not forget however to put our friend —— in mind of our long talked of jaunt to ————, but whether we shall be there before your return home is not to be foretold. If, however, we should meet with you in ————, you know we can easily go on together; and your having been at ———— once, can be no solid reason for not travelling there again.

I hope to be able to return home in about a week hence, as the cold weather will certainly blow health into our feverish city. I am here among the hills of Morris Town, without one interesting companion, and though agreeably situated in the family of an agreeable relation, yet I am obliged to range the hills and dales alone. I and Solitude however are upon a pretty good footing with each other, and almost every field and every walk presents me with some old acquaintance. When I grow tired of rambling, I sit down on an old stump, and read aloud some of Thomson's Autumn. And this you see is all I have to do.

It is time, however, to descend, and transcribe this scrawl for tomorrow's post. Adieu.

A. B.

For the Literary Magazine.

DR. FRANKLIN ON AMERICAN POPULATION.

To the Editor, &c.

BY publishing the following remarks on American population, by an ingenious foreigner, you will oblige, &c. A.

THE population of America, according to the census or enumeration taken by act of congress, for the year 1801, amounts to 5,305,638 souls; the amount, in 1791, was 3,929,326 souls. This statement proves, in the most undeniable manner, that Dr. Franklin has overrated the probable increase of American population in his calculation "that the number of the inhabitants of America (exclusive of emigrants from the old world) will double itself every twenty years." As the doctor's observations on this head, and on its importance to Great Britain, printed at Philadelphia in 1755, are very scarce, and comprised in a small compass, it may not be unacceptable to your readers to have them in his own words.

"Tables of the proportion of marriages to births, of deaths to births, of marriages to the number of inhabitants, &c. formed on observations made on the bills of mortality, christenings, &c. of populous cities, will not suit countries; nor will tables formed on observations made on full settled old countries, as Europe, suit new countries, as America.

"For people increase in proportion to the number of marriages, and that is greater in proportion to the ease and convenience of supporting a family. When families

can be easily supported, more persons marry, and earlier in life.

"In cities, where all trades, occupations, and offices are full, many delay until they can see how to bear the charges of a family; which charges are greater in cities, as luxury is more common; many live single during life, and continue servants to families, journeymen to trades, &c. hence cities do not, by natural generation, supply themselves with inhabitants; the deaths are more than the births.

"In countries full settled, the case must be nearly the same; all lands being occupied and improved to the height, those who cannot get land must labour for those who have it; when labourers are plenty, their wages will be low; by low wages, a family is supported with difficulty; this difficulty deters many from marriage, who therefore long continue servants, and single. Only as cities take supplies of people from the country, and thereby make a little more room in the country, marriage is a little more encouraged there, and the births exceed the deaths.

"Great part of Europe is full settled with husbandmen, manufacturers, &c. and therefore cannot now much increase in people. Land being plenty in America, and so cheap, as that a labouring man, who understands husbandry, can in a short time save money enough to purchase a piece of new land sufficient for a plantation, whereon he may subsist a family, such are not afraid to marry; for even if they look far enough forward to consider how their children, when grown, are to be provided for, they see that more land is to be had at rates equally easy, all circumstances considered.

"Hence marriages in America are more general, and more generally early than in Europe. And if it is reckoned there, that there is but one marriage *per annum* among 100 persons, perhaps we may here reckon two; and if in Europe they have but four births to a marriage (many of their marriages being late) we may here reckon eight; of which, if one half grow up, and our marriages are made, reckoning one with another, at twenty years of age, *our people must be doubled at least every twenty years.*

"But notwithstanding this increase, so vast is the territory of North America, that it will require many ages to settle it fully; and, until it is fully settled, labour will never be cheap here, where no man continues long a labourer for others, but gets a plantation of his own; no man continues long a journeyman to a trade, but goes among those new settlers, and sets up for himself, &c. Hence labour is no cheaper now (1755) in Pennsylvania, than it was thirty years ago, though so many thousand labouring people have been imported from Germany and Ireland.

"In proportion to the increase of the colonies, a vast demand is growing for British manufactures, a glorious market wholly in the power of Britain, in which foreigners cannot interfere, which will increase in a short time even beyond her power of supplying, though her whole trade should be to her colonies."

These are the doctor's speculative ideas on American population, and they may be now brought to the most unequivocal test, that of an enumeration taken by act of congress during ten years of uninterrupted tranquillity, and all the other advantages, which the doctor has represented America as enjoying for an increase of population; yet it will appear that he has considerably over-rated it, for, according to his calculation, the population of America, amounting in 1791 to 3,929,326 souls, should have increased in 1801 to 5,893,989, exclusive of emigrants; whereas it was only 5,305,638, or 588,351 short of the doctor's calculation, including emigrants of every description, and their progeny. Nor can it be presumed that the next ten years can make up the deficiency; because compound increase cannot

be computed within twenty years, at which age the doctor calculated that American marriages were made; and he has therefore very justly limited his calculation upon the increase of any given number of souls to the period at which, upon a fair average, the increase become marriageable, and begin to form the parent stock of a new generation.... But, taking the increase for the last ten years to be in the same ratio as the foregoing (although by a decrease of the advantages in favour of natural generation, upon which the doctor calculated, it will decrease in proportion) the population of America, at the end of twenty years in 1811, will be 6,681,950 souls, including emigrants from the old world. These form a considerable, though it is impossible to say what, part of American increase, because the Americans publish no list of them; but if they and their issue, during twenty years, are computed, *communibus annis*, at 30,000 *per annum*, it will be thought much under the mark by all who have a knowledge of the subject. Scarcely a vessel arrives in any port of the United States from any part of the world, without more or fewer passengers on board. Many vessels, of not more than 300 tons burthen, arrive in the Delaware, with 400 or 500 passengers from different parts of Ireland. Neither is this a novel scene. They bring similar cargoes from Scotland and Germany. The arrivals from England and other parts of Europe are less numerous, but more frequent; and, considering the innumerable swarms imported from the French West Indies, during the late troubles there, the number of emigrants and their progeny, during the last ten years, will be considerably under-rated. But, taking it at that rate, and making an average calculation upon the ten years, from 1791 to 1801 (during which America enjoyed in the fullest latitude, all those advantages for an increasing population which it ever can enjoy) the real increase will be as follows:

Population in 1791 .	3,929,326
Increase in ten years ending in 1801 .	1,376,312
Ditto Ditto 1811	1,376,312
	6,681,950
Deduct for emigrants and their issue .	600,000
	7,281,950

or 1,776,702 less than the doctor's calculation!

To such as make observations upon the increase of American population, these remarks are necessary to be attended to, because the Americans do not discriminate between the increase by natural generation, and fortuitous or emigrating increase, as Dr. Franklin very properly does; and the mistaken inference to be drawn by such observers, would consequently be, that America is much more propitious to an increase of the human species than it really is. This mistake will be carried to a much more considerable extent, when the census or enumeration for 1811 shall be increased by the population of Louisiana (lately ceded to the United States) and all its towns and settlements to the westward of the Mississippi.

Thus the actual census, unattended by any explanation, appears almost incredible, considering the smallness of European increase in that period; but when the efflux of Europe and influx into America is balanced, our astonishment ceases. It may be doubted whether the increase of American population, exclusive of emigration, for the ten years, from 1791 to 1801, ever came up to any thing near one half of the doctor's calculation, considering the vast influx of Europeans during that troublesome period; and whatever might have been the fecundity of the American females at the time the doctor wrote, it is now-a-days far inferior to that of the European women; so that, instead of allowing eight births to one marriage, as he has done, it is well known that for one marriage which produces five births, there are 500 that do not ex-

ceed three, and the proportion will hold good throughout the United States. Neither have marriages in America held any thing like a duplicate ratio to those in Europe since 1791; the cities and towns which have sprung up there, or vastly extended themselves, since the doctor's time, militating as much against early marriages, and the ease and convenience of supporting a family, as he has alledged against those in Europe. Dissipation also has wonderfully increased in America since the revolution, and rages in the sea-ports, particularly Charleston, Norfolk, Baltimore, &c. as much as in any European sea-port towns of equal extent; and were the marriage lists to be compared, the deficiency would most probably be on the American side. This drawback on the doctor's calculation certainly did not exist at the time he made it; and had he, a short time previous to his death, been to make it over again, he must have seen occasion to retract his opinion.

The yellow fever, which, since 1793, has constantly made an annual depopulation in America, and which now (1803) rages in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and at Alexandria, only eight miles from Washington, the seat of government, has also in some measure contributed to baffle the doctor's calculation, although under every advantage upon which he grounded it, it must be evident that it far exceeded the *ne plus ultra* of the increase of the human species in the climate of the United States, or perhaps in the universe. People who have travelled over the states, and sought for information in every track, very much doubt whether their population would double itself from the beginning to the end of the present century, totally independent of emigrants, and allowing for the probability of a devastation by war, and the ravages of the yellow fever, added to the catalogue of customary disorders. The population of the United States has undoubtedly increased: but as no mention is made of emigrants, the European reader should be apprised that they are included; and thus the increase of 1801 is not to be presumed as emanating from the stock of 1791 only, but as the result of that and a large foreign emigration conjunctively.

The United States comprize upwards of 1,000,000 of square miles, or 640,000,000 acres of land, exclusive of water, and must, as Dr. Franklin observes, require many ages to settle it fully: for, allowing forty acres to each family, which is an ample allowance of *freehold* land, for which no rent, and very few taxes are paid, and it will take 16,000,000 of families, exclusive of the numbers compressed into cities, towns, &c. Louisiana, lately ceded to the Americans, and to which they now claim the Floridas, as being attached, or comprehended under that title, contains an extent of land probably more than as much again; and allowing 16,000,000 of families, and five to a family, the dominion of the United States will be found capable of containing 320,000,000 of souls, enjoying each as much room as Great Britain could afford to 12,000,000.

The period must be, therefore, far distant, before the Americans will, if ever, be reduced for want of land to shut themselves up in the workshops of crowded cities, to earn their subsistence by manufactures; and the proximity of Louisiana, which is bounded on the west by New Mexico, will facilitate the entry of the precious metals into the American dominions, and add to the luxury of the natives, whilst it depresses their spirit of industry..... The demand of British manufactures must consequently increase, whilst their quality and cheapness insures them the preference over those of other nations, and Great Britain will be the workshop of the United States. As to Dr. Franklin's observation, that Great Britain will not be able to supply the consumption of the United States, though her whole trade should be to them,

it seems groundless; the exertions of Great Britain are now infinitely more than adequate to their supply, and, if the consumption should increase ten times as much, would still continue to be so. Manufactures would find bread for thousands, who would otherwise emigrate; and if the population of Great Britain should increase beyond its power of giving subsistence to them, the United States would be its granary..... Such is the relative situation of Great Britain and the United States to each other, affording such a prospect of reciprocal advantages as none but the most infatuated policy can ever destroy or interrupt.

For the Literary Magazine.

BRITISH PENSION LIST.

THE ingenuity of government, in extracting from the purses of the people that portion of the general revenue, which is called the public revenue, in ways which shall be the easiest and most satisfactory to all parties, necessarily leads into estimates and disquisitions concerning every mode of private expence, and thus affords, to the curious, a clue to the knowledge of life and manners not otherwise attainable.

In the English revenue system, the public contributions are so great, and collected from such an infinite variety of sources, all of which must be made generally known, that the estimates, on this head, afford the most curious and extensive views into the state of the community.

Necessity has compelled the rulers to subject almost every article of individual ornament and use to taxation. For that end, they are obliged to compute, with great exactness, the quantity of every such article consumed, and the experience of one year affords the requisite information, and materials for judging of future, and even of past years.

In looking over a summary of the British funds for last year (1803), I observe that a deduction is to be made of one twentieth from all pensions: that is, of every *dollar* received by a pensionary, he shall return *five cents* into the public treasury.

A pension is an annual sum, conferred on some one, not in exchange for any actual or immediate, but as a recompense for past service, or as a reward for some supposed merit, or is a merely arbitrary and gratuitous donation, dictated by nothing but the will of the donor..... Some of these pensions rise as high as 20,000 dollars a year, and some fall as low as 75 dollars a year.

Competence is variable according to the education and habits of individuals: but if we divide the nation generally into low, middling, and high, we shall find that a competence, that is, an ample, independent provision, in the case of the first class, or the low, amounts, for a single person, to about 75 dollars a year, and for a family of six persons, to thrice as much or 225 dollars.

Now the the pension list of Great Britain amounted last year to upwards of 5,500,000 dollars, which, divided equally among families of the lower class, would afford competence, without labour, to many more than 20,000 families,or 120,000 individuals.

For a family of the middling class 1000 dollars a year is an ample competence. In this case, competence would be secured to 5500 families, or 33,000 individuals.

Thus the pension list of England would give affluence, without care or toil, to the inhabitants of a whole city, whose population amounted, in the first case, to 120,000, and in the second to 33,000.

These pensions however are not so equally divided. They vary from 150 dollars to 20,000 dollars a year. It is remarkable that the largest pensions are conferred on those who are already rich, and that they constitute the sole support of the pensioner, in proportion to their small-

ness. Thus a superannuated royal domestic, or a disabled soldier, shall receive 150 dollars a year; while the families of Pitt and Penn, already opulent, receive each near 20,000 dollars.

A *twentieth* part of this sum is deducted from it as a tax, and amounts to 225,000, which itself would maintain 2000 labourers upon the soil.

If the amount of that part of the English pensions which now only swells the big, and enriches the already opulent, were employed in building roads, aqueducts, and bridges, how far would it go in changing the face of the island?

We may likewise observe, that the amount of pensions is more than double that of salaries: which last constitute the wages given to those by whom the whole machine of civil government is kept in motion.

For the Literary Magazine.

DOGS.

THE best idea that can be formed of the extent to which dogs are tolerated in Great Britain, may be gathered from the amount of the tax upom them. This tax, in 1803, brought in upwards of 450,000 dollars. As it must be matter of choice and luxury to keep a dog, what must be the general opulence of a nation, or what must be its general attachment to the canine race, when, in addition to the price and trouble of their maintenance, the people are willing to pay so vast a sum as this, for the privilege of keeping them!

For the Literary Magazine.

DEATH OF BICHAT.

BICHAT, one of the most eminent surgeons and physicians in France, died in August, 1802, having fallen a victim to the pestilential effluvia *from a lump of putrified flesh, on which he was making experiments.*

For the Literary Magazine.

NOTICES OF AMERICAN WRITERS AND PUBLICATIONS.

1. THE Port Folio is conducted by Joseph Dennie with his usual spirit. We warmly commend this gentleman for his zeal and labours in the cause of literature, we are grateful for the services which he has already rendered to that honourable cause, and hope that success will always attend his virtuous undertakings. We are now and then somewhat inclined to find fault with some of the poetical effusions which he introduces, and for some invectives, in which he occasionally indulges his pen, against christians of a *particular* denomination; but, while we differ from him with respect to these shades of opinion, we acknowledge fully his perfect right to his own sentiments on these and on other subjects, and do not consider them as detracting from his literary qualifications, which we know to be highly respectable. We wish to proceed hand in hand with him, in support of what he styles the *monarchy* of letters.

2. The Medical Repository, edited by Dr. Mitchill and Dr. Miller, of the city of New York, continues still to deserve its far-extended celebrity. We have heard learned medical characters declare that no work of the kind in Europe is more judiciously supported, or is attended with more flattering success.

3. We observe that Dr. Barton has proposed to undertake a work of the same nature with the one last noticed. His own talents and learning, the literary character of this city, and the extensive connections of some of our booksellers, will, we have no doubt, prove favourable to his design, and give our city a title to that fame in science, which our

neighbour city has hitherto enjoyed without a rival.

4. Dr. Mease has lately edited with much ability, and enlarged with considerable original matter, Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia..... He offers also to the public another work, conducted in the same manner, entitled, The Wonders of Nature and of Art.

5. A periodical performance, entitled, The Monthly Anthology, is published in Boston. Some numbers of this work we have seen, but have not yet read attentively. The editor and publisher of this work is requested to accept our thanks for transmitting to us those numbers which have already appeared. We shall be grateful for the ensuing numbers as they shall be published, and shall send, in return, the present and future numbers of the Literary Magazine.

6. Observations on some Passages of Mr. Jefferson's Notes on Virginia have appeared from the press of Swords, in New York. With his Remarks the writer has not given his name. They are written with ability, and betoken a youthful, but promising author.

7. The Rev. John H. Hobart, of New York, has given to the world a work entitled, The Companion for the Altar. It is his design in this, to explain the nature of the sacrament of the Lord's supper, and the views and religious exercises with which the communicant should approach that holy ordinance. We shall take another opportunity of more particularly noticing this work.

8. We have but little opportunity afforded us of noticing original poetical performances. The muse seems at present to slumber in a country eminently calculated to awaken her exertions. We have skies, which give us the varied and kind returns of seasons; we have winds, which one would think would blow the spark of genius into flame; we have waters, which should allure to their banks the vagrant foot of enthusiasm; and we have mountains, which furnish us with all that is grand and elevating in prospect. Why then slumbers the poetical muses of America? We could indeed give a list of poets, whose works are entitled to a considerable portion of praise; but we complain of the smallness of their number, and we wish to see some effort which shall go beyond any that has yet appeared.

9. Dr. Dwight, president of Yale college, and Dr. Dana, of Newhaven, have published each a sermon on the death of Mr. Marsh, professor in the college, who died at the age of 26. The discourse of Dr. Dwight only have we read. It is eloquent, and will not detract from that high degree of reputation, which this distinguished divine, orator, and scholar has justly obtained, in this country and in England. We are delighted with the information which we have received, that Dr. Dwight is preparing for the press two or more volumes of his travels through different parts of the United States.

10. The political and literary interests of this country have suffered a great loss in the death of general Alexander Hamilton. In every region of investigation, into which this man entered, he discovered a burning and intrepid genius. Our hearts bleed at the recollection of the manner in which he died; and most bitterly do we deplore that such a man has fallen in such a manner. The citizens of New York can never forget the rich displays of his capacious and overcoming eloquence, nor should America ever forget his services in the field and in the cabinet. Early in life, Hamilton discovered a brilliant fancy and correct taste. He wrote and delivered, at the request of his fellow students, an Essay on Duelling, which, even at that season of heated imagination, declared detestation of that savage practice. He pronounced, several years ago, an eulogium on the character of general Greene. We hope that both these productions may be discovered among his papers, and that these, in connection with his

many political tracts, will be published in a uniform manner. During a year or more before his death, he meditated a work on government; but we are not informed that he had made any progress in such a great and desirable undertaking. In a future number of this Magazine, we propose to give a portrait, and a more particular account of this celebrated and extraordinary man.

11. John Jay, to whom every American should feel himself indebted, is, we are informed, engaged, in his solitary retreat at Bedford, in writing a work on the prophecies. May the benedictions of Heaven follow him in his philosophical retreat from the unthankful warfare of politics! May his religious meditations be consolatory to himself and instructive to the world! And may the evening of his life be attended by that peace which man can neither give nor take away!

12. We have lately seen and looked into a work called an Index to the Bible. It proposes to aid the searches into the scriptures, by giving the heads of different subjects, in alphabetical order, and referring to the chapter and verse in which they are found. From our examination of this volume, we discover, by its partial and restricted references, that it befriends the doctrines of Socinius. We believe that it is a posthumous work of Dr. Priestley. It discovers great industry and accuracy in support of the peculiar views of its author. Dr. Priestley was one of the most industrious, learned, and celebrated men of the eighteenth century. Science and literature are indebted to him for his discoveries and researches; and though the writer of these notices has ventured to differ with him on religious opinions, yet he is far from being disposed to withhold from him, his share of approbation and gratitude, which are due to his merits and services. Dr. Barton, Dr. Woodhouse, and Dr. Caldwell have been appointed as eulogists of this philosopher. Justice, therefore, will be done to his character, by men of talents, who know how to estimate his worth.

13. Two volumes of sermons, by the Rev. Dr. John M. Mason, of New-York, are soon to be offered to the world from a London press. While Dr. M. was in England, notes were taken of discourses which he there delivered, and published in a mutilated form. In order to rectify a proceeding so unjust, he was induced to promise, that, on his return to America, he would transmit to a printer in London, a number of discourses sufficient to form two octavo volumes. Dr. M. has, for some time past, been engaged in fulfilling his intention. All his performances, which we have hitherto seen, have borne the undoubted stamp of genius, and they give us an assurance of the successful execution of the intended publication.

14. The Rev. Dr. Samuel Miller is proceeding with the second part of his Retrospect. He proposes, in this part, to review the condition and progress of theology, during the eighteenth century. The ability with which he has written the first part of his voluminous work, makes us look, with pleasing expectations, toward that which is to come.

15. The Triumph of the Gospel, a sermon delivered before the New York Missionary Society, by the Rev. Dr. J. H. Livingston, has been published by T. and J. Swords. Copies of this discourse have not yet reached this city. The subject which it embraces is elevated and interesting; and from so learned and pious a theologian, as the author, we expect, on the topics which he discusses, much instruction and delight.

16. "Glad Tidings, or an Account of the State of Religion, within the Bounds of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and in other Parts of the World. Taken from the Reports of their Members, and their Committee of Missions; published by the said Committee, with the Approbation of the General Assembly, for the Information

of the People under their Care."..... The title-page sufficiently informs us of the nature and extent of the design of this pamphlet. In prosecution of their intentions in making these *Glad Tidings* public, the committee of missions have communicated much useful and satisfactory information. They have given a sketch of the missionary societies in the United States and abroad, and have related, as far as their limits would permit, the success which has attended their exertions. It appears, from this and other publications of the same nature, that christians, in different parts of the world, have been rouzed by more than common zeal to spread through the habitations of ignorance and blood the mild and saving truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The general assembly of the presbyterian church of America, when they constituted a standing committee of missions, intrusted to their hands the management of the concerns of the missionary cause..... From what these gentlemen* have already effected, we may send forward christian hope to explore the future, and bring us back the tokens of still greater success.

The sum which is raised from the sale of this work will be devoted to missionary purposes, and this consideration, in connection with the information which it will afford on the most interesting subjects, we hope will give it a speedy and extensive sale.

We shall extract and insert, in this place, some letters with which we were much gratified, and which we trust will furnish much gratification to others.

"*Extract of a Letter from Mr. Gerike, dated Vaparry, Jan.* 18, 1803.

"I wrote you last from Seringapatam; since that time I have experienced great hardships, and also singular mercies. When in my journey I came near to the extremity of the peninsulas, I found whole villages waiting anxiously for my coming, to be further instructed and baptized. They had got acquainted with our native priest in that country, and the catechists and christians; and had learned from them the catechism, which those who could write copied, to learn it themselves, at their leisure.

"When they heard of my coming, they broke their idols to pieces, and converted their temples into christian churches; in which I instructed and baptised them; in some about 200, in others near 300; formed them into christian congregations; procured for them catechists and schoolmasters; and made them chuse, in each place, four elders. These examples awakened the whole country; and when I was about to leave it, the inhabitants of many more villages sent messages to me, begging me to remain a couple of months longer in their country, and to do, in their villages, the good work I had done in those of their neighbours. Since that, there have been instructed and baptized 2700 people more, and 18 congregations more have been formed..... Among these new converts are several chiefs, all very zealous; and one of them travels about, preaching the gospel. Since my return, some of the heathen of that country, old enemies, have stirred up a persecution against them. By a letter, since, from that country, I am informed of the good news, that the persecution had abated in several places; and that the christians who had been confined, had been honourably acquitted.

"*Serampore, Oct.* 11, 1803.

"There has not been any great work apparent here, but yet it has been evidently progressing. Since

* The names of the committee of missions for the present year are, Rev. Dr. Ashbel Green, chairman, Rev. Dr. Samuel Blair, Philip Milledoler, Jacob Janeway, Elias Boudinot. LL. D. Ebenezer Hazard, Robert Smith.

our arrival 11 natives have made a profession of christianity by baptism. Among them are three brahmans. These have been collected, not by our endeavours, but evidently by the gracious providence of God. Some have heard from others; others have obtained information by papers; and others have accidentally called, as they passed by, and heard the words of life from our brethren; and thus have been led to enquiry, which we hope has ended in their thorough conversion to God. It must be remarked, that not one of these people belonged to Serampore, but all came from a distance, and some widely apart from each other. From the east and from the west, and from the north and from the south, will God gather in his elect, and show that it is not by might nor by power, nor by an arm of flesh, but by his own spirit, that his work is to be accomplished. Brother Krishno is perhaps the most useful in this way. Enquirers are entertained at his house, and he spends much of his time in conversing with them, for which he is eminently qualified. He is an experienced christian, and a very valuable and useful man. He is the first brahman who was baptized. He is gone with brother W— to Dinagepore. Brother W— writes some very pleasing things concerning him; one is, his proficiency in speaking and disputing with the natives. God has been pleased to remove our brother Gokool by death, from the church militant, to the church triumphant; of this he gave abundant testimony, both during a lingering illness, and in the article of death. His hope was wholly in Christ, and supported by this, he passed through the valley of the shadow of death, and feared no evil. We have been visited by some people from a place about 500 miles distant, called Lockfeel, who have given us great hope. They had been here before; and our brethren have at different times visited them. They are intelligent people, much above the common rank. They read well, and try to understand all they read, are devoted enemies to Hindooism and Mahometanism, and very great adepts in disputation on these points. They say that their minds are made up respecting christianity; they are sure that it is the true and right way; and in it alone they expect pardon, and depend wholly on the death of Christ for salvation. Some thing of a worldly nature hinders them from making a public confession by baptism, which gives us sorrow, and damps our rising expectations.

"Schools are instituting in many parts of the country for English, Portuguese, and Hindoo children, and the Bible, with many other pious books, is printed in the Bengalee, Hindostanee, Persian, and Maharata languages.

"In Ceylon, an island containing more than 100,000 inhabitants, a great work is also carrying on. The British possessions are divided into four districts; these are divided into counties, which are subdivided into parishes. In every parish is a protestant school, where the youth are instructed in reading and writing their own language, and in the principles of christianity. Over every ten schools is appointed one catechist, whose business it is to perform a visitation once a month to enquire into the conduct of the teachers; to examine the progress made by the scholars, and to exhort them to industry and diligence. In each of the lesser districts is established a native officiating preacher, who has been examined, and performs divine service in one of the churches or schools every Sunday, &c. In each of the principal districts are one, two, or three clergymen who have been ordained in Europe. Each has the superintending charge of a certain number of schools, to which he performs a visitation once a year, and administers the holy communion. Some of the native preachers and catechists are really men of principle and abilities, and are extremely useful. By the last returns, there were nearly 170 schools, and up-

wards of 42,000 professing protestant christians. The number of christians professing the religion of the church of Rome was very great. There are fifteen priests on the island, who are indefatigable in their labours, and are daily making proselytes. The doctrines of those who have been educated by the Dutch are purely calvinistic, and their sermons evangelical.

"A British missionary has also, in a great measure, succeeded in establishing a mission in Astracan, in Persia. He writes from Corass Beshnaw, near Geotghieusk, under date of January 27, 1803. "I have met with a degree of prosperity, in my undertaking, that makes me afraid; Providence has enabled me to do more than ever I meditated. We have fixed ourselves in a village, which separates the Tartars from the Cabordians, who inhabit a great part of Caucasus. This place in which we are settled, is on the frontier of the Russian empire, but properly in the Circassian country. We travelled, under the favour of an open letter from the emperor of Russia to his governors, &c. by the way of Moscow, Sarepta, Astracan, &c. about three thousand versts, to the place where we now are. It is within a few days' journey of Persia and Bokkaria, and within fifty miles of Turkey. Although, I doubt not, the society for missions to Africa and the east have already sufficient engagements, yet may I not venture to ask, whether they might not ransom a few Tartar youths? Should any of them prove pious, they might afterwards do much in propagating the gospel. You cannot conceive the respect and attention a Tartar or Circassian would meet with, who understood the Arabic, Turkish, Persian, and Tartar languages well."

Extracts from two letters from the Rev. Gideon Blackburn, acting under the authority of the general assembly of the presbyterian church in the United States, as a missionary to the Cherokee Indians, to the Rev. Dr. Ashbel Green, chairman of the committee of missions.

Maryville, Nov. 2, 1803.

REV. SIR,

You have no doubt been waiting with considerable anxiety to hear from me on the subject of my mission. I did not wish to write until I should have it in my power to say something decisive on the subject. Immediately on my return to Tenessee, I took every opportunity of conversation with the leading characters of the nation, on their visits to our settlement, and stated to them my wishes. Some, I could not see, I addressed by letter, in order to prepare their minds for giving the proposals publicity. By information from colonel Meigs, I found there was to be a general meeting of the nation on the 15th September, near South-west Point, about forty miles from this place. I attended, but the Indians had postponed the meeting to the 15th October. Finding it would give dignity and respect to the institution, to have the sense of the nation on the subject, I wrote a circular letter, requesting an answer on that head at their meeting. At the time proposed, I again attended, and met a general assembly of the chiefs, and a considerable number of the people, in all near 2000. The council was held in a grove, on the Indians' land, on the south of Tenessee river. I made my proposal in an address: on the 20th, the Indians took it into serious consideration that evening and night, and in full council the next day rendered their answer in the following words, viz. "We approve of a school being established in our nation, under the superintendance of the Rev. Mr. Blackburn, and hope much good will be done by it to our people: two years are allowed in the first place, that we may have an opportunity to see what progress our children make under the instruction of the teachers,

and we will send some of our children to the school."

THE GLASS,
Speaker for the nation.

Attest,
RETURN J. MEIGS.

A place was agreed on. The place chosen by the chiefs, as most suitable to their convenience, is near a town called Highwassee, near forty-five miles in the nation. I have procured a teacher, of respectable character, approved morals, and strict piety.

The distance of the school from the settlement, made it necessary for the teacher to live in the nation; I therefore preferred one with a family: one is obtained, who has a decent companion, and one child: he has entered into bond, and given sufficient security for his performance.

The school will be attended with considerable expence, and immense trouble and labour: but I hope God will direct to resources, and enable to bear the fatigue. The advantage to the nation, and the cause of God, will, I trust, fully repay every exertion to promote the institution. To see thousands of immortals capable, by improvement, to vie with a Boyle, a Bacon, and a Newton, buried in the shades of savage ignorance, and destitute of the means of enlightening, would inspire the most stoical mind, if religious, with apostolic desires to rescue them from their native ignorance and savage wildness. However, I am fully persuaded there is not a nation of Indians on the continent, which promises fairer to reward the pious exertions of generous benefactors, than the Cherokee nation.

Before Christmas, I flatter myself, every thing will be ready to begin the school. One of the great obstacles to be surmounted, will be the wild and distant disposition of the young Indians: this must be engaged by allurements: perhaps a few small books, to be given to them, might be of use. Should this desideratum be supplied, and a few others suited to the undertaking be forwarded, it would evidently materially serve the mission.

I rest assured we have your most ardent prayers, and those of your society, for our success, and will expect your friendly communications to assist in the discharge of the important trust.

The president, the agent, and all the officers of government are much pleased with the design, and engaged to promote the undertaking by every kind office in their power; but unless God build the house, the workmen strive in vain. May God grant his aid, afford his assistance, and receive entirely the praise!

Maryville, April 12, 1804.

After immense labour and fatigue, I got all things ready for opening the Indian school on the 21st February. The master had been under pay from December; and had been at the place, making necessary arrangements....obtaining an acquaintance with the language, and familiarizing himself with the children. On the first day, there came eleven scholars; on the 8th of March there were *sixteen;* on the 27th there were *twenty;* and several more are expected in a few days.....as soon as I can get clothing ready for them.

The children behave past expectation; and I am persuaded that, by a discipline well balanced by inducements and well-timed authority, they can be kept in as good order as any school on the continent.

Their proficiency is very remarkable: the first day several of them could distinctly pronounce half of the alphabet; by the eighth of March all of them could say their letters, backward and forward, and could easily know them wherever they could see them; and three could say their *ab.* They continue their progress; and I flatter myself that their proficiency will exceed the most sanguine expectations. Two boys who have been taught in the

settlement are now at school, and are beginning to *write*.

The activity, attention, and care of the master deserve the highest notice.

I have spent three months in close service to the institution, besides numberless attentions I am obliged to pay to it at home. The interest I feel in carrying this business into effect would secure my exertions, should I receive no pecuniary returns from any person on earth. I have pledged myself to the nation, and my property is at stake on the issue of the undertaking.

I found it necessary to engage in the business on a large scale, which involves considerably more expence than at first I had calculated: the clothing and boarding I found unavoidable: without this they could not easily be weaned from savage, and introduced into civilized habits; nor could they have been continued at school, had they been boarded in Indian families. The Indians were not sufficiently sensible of the advantages to submit to the expences of the institution. I have therefore raised a tolerable large house with two fires, in which they are both boarded and taught, and thus are constantly under the eye of the master.

In every conversation I have had with the chiefs, I have inculcated the ideas of settling in farms, and cultivating the soil: I think a very short period will bring this about.

The existence of a *Supreme Being* is almost universally acknowledged, and they admit his agency in matters of importance.

They are remarkably fond of historical sketches; and in this way might easily be instructed in the history of the bible. Should a number of gentlemen of talents and leisure publish a work in the form of a magazine to answer this end, and devote it to the use of the school, I am persuaded it would serve the cause of God.

The chiefs of the nation are pleased with the thought, that their children should be taught to do business like the white people.

A few days ago, I received a very earnest request from the principal chiefs of the lower district of the nation, for a school to be established among them. This would be attended with less expence, as a few respectable white men live near that place, who would board the scholars free, and contribute considerably for schooling their own children.

Shall it be said by future writers of the history of America, that once there existed a nation of Indians, consisting of upwards of eight thousand souls; but that they sunk to ruin for want of information, though begging for the means of civilization from a rich, an enlightened, and a christianized republic? Shall not the same ardour fire our breasts, which actuates the merchant, while, in the pursuit of wealth, he traverses the globe, or faces death upon the mighty waters! He is not daunted by the horror of the tempests, or the changes of climate, until he arrives in Nootka Sound, in quest of a few *otter skins*; and shall the salvation of souls be of less consequence in our view, or shall we be apathetic in our exertions to rescue them from savage ignorance and barbarity?

I wish to be fully informed of the wishes and designs of the committee on this subject, and how far they will carry the attempt to civilize this nation; also what funds they will appropriate to that end. Should the funds be inadequate, rather than the design should miscarry, I would cheerfully commit the care of my family and congregations to divine Providence, and, pleading the cause of my poor red neighbours and brethren, I would endeavour, by representing their cries for relief, to excite a generous public to contribution.

Were the state of the school and its wants known to the merchants and booksellers of Philadelphia, I am persuaded that blankets, clothing, and books, together with an abundance of small articles, which

would serve as presents and inducements to the children, might easily be obtained. These would be of great service; and indeed without them the school cannot go on. All the presents I have yet given them are at my own expence, as I was desirous to make the best I could of the funds on hand.

I need not specify the kinds of books which will be wanted; you are all judges of those things, and, having it in your power to select from a great variety, you can do it to the best advantage.

Oh, sir, if I had the wealth of a Crœsus, the ambition of an Alexander, and the wisdom of Solomon, aided by the zeal of a Paul, or an Elliot, they should all be employed to carry on this design.

I hope this earth never makes one revolution on its axis, without finding you with your hands spread, and your hearts raised to the divine throne for my assistance. May your prayers be successful, and you reap a rich harvest to your own souls!

The nations are shaking, the temple is filling with the glory of the Lord, and the poor heathen will soon rejoice in the light of the sun of righteousness. May we, who already enjoy the light of the gospel, be indeed the salt of the earth!

Affixed to these communications are two religious pieces of poetry, and a letter from a reverend gentleman in the western part of the state of Tenessee. On the contents of this letter, and on all subjects of a similar kind, we hesitate to offer a full and decisive opinion; however, the facts which are here related are in themselves singular, and deserve attention and enquiry.

17. We have read eleven letters of Dr. Thomas Ruston, which form the first part of a collection of facts, interspersed with observations, on the nature, causes, and cure of the yellow fever. In these letters, Dr. R. totally condemns all modes of cure which have been adopted and practised in this country. As yet, however, we are not able to judge whether his condemnation be just, for he has not introduced into his first part his own peculiar opinions, and his remedy for this gigantic disease, which has depopulated cities, and been the scourge of kingdoms. If he can suggest any new hints, if he can discover any new potions, which will prove antidotes to the introduction of this fever into our cities, or if his skill can withstand its ravages and slaughter when it is introduced, he will be entitled to the everlasting gratitude of mankind.

The following letter will afford a favourable specimen of his mode of writing.

LETTER X.

Of the transmission of pestilential contagion.

M. Desgenettes, physician in chief to the army of the east under general Bonaparte, observes, that it has been long ascertained, that the only method of stopping the propagation of this dreadful distemper, is to keep the infected in a strict seclusion, and not to touch either their bodies, or their clothes, to which the pestilential virus adheres with the greater obstinacy and facility the more woolly their texture is.

Solicitous to prevent the alarm and terror, which seizes the bravest men at the mere name of the disease, and favours the contagion, M. Desgenettes called the pestilential fever an epidemic fever, and, in concert with the generals who directed the expedition, concealed from the army the real name of its most formidable enemy, the disclosure of which would have struck them with a panic.

In the expedition which was directed against Syria, fifteen thousand men crossed the desert, which separates Africa from Asia. The verdant summits of Palestine's mountains relieved the soldier's eye, fatigued with the sterility of the desert, and the monotonous appearance of Egyptian prospects, where

the soil, alternately parched and inundated, produced a vigorous vegetation only in those parts contiguous to the Nile, or its innumerable canals. Meanwhile, many individuals were attacked by the pestilential disease, the symptoms of which were too decisive to be mistaken. It might at first, says he, be imagined, that men accustomed to brave death in the field of battle, would view the ravages of the plague with cool indifference; experience, however, proves the contrary, as M. Desgenettes very philosophically observes. He continued to employ the most prudent precautions he was master of, and to pay the most unremitted attention to the sick, in spite of all which, great numbers of victims were swept away by the disease.

As the violence of the symptoms increased before Jaffa, and carried off the patients on the fifth or sixth day, he could no longer disguise the danger of their situation. However, as he placed great hopes on the effects of the healthy season into which they were advancing, in the diversion of marches, better quarters, and the abundance and better quality of the food; as, besides, he was by no means convinced that the disease was very easily communicated, on which all the exaggerations of alarm were accredited, he took the following resolution. Aware of the frequently pernicious influence on the human mind, of imaginary prejudices, he determined never to pronounce the word *plague*. Under these circumstances he considered it as his duty to treat the whole army, like a patient in a critical disease, to whom it can never be of service, and it is frequently very dangerous, to reveal his real situation. He communicated this resolution to the chief of the etat-major-general, whose situation, independent of the private friendship with which he was honoured, appeared to demand an avowal of the political motives that regulated his conduct.

The army arrived before Acre, where all the valour and the good fortune of a great general were ineffectually opposed to a handful of Britons. Scarcely was the encampment completed, and scarcely were the trenches opened, when the plague made its appearance among the corps of artillery. M. Desgenettes, in an instruction, indicated to the army his method of preventing and treating the disease, the name of which he was always cautious to disguise. The means he recommended for keeping up the strength were, a vomit in the first instance, and afterwards a very strong decoction of coffee and quinquina, acidulated with lemon, means very inadequate to the aid that was to be obtained. He directed the buboes to be covered with emollient cataplasms, without endeavouring to reduce them; for, as he very judiciously observes, these buboes are the crisis of the disease; and as it appears that the dreadful virus in which the cause of it resides exhausts its influence on the lymphatic glands, they should be opened by incision when the inflammation has terminated by suppuration. With regard to ulcers that quickly turn to a gangrene or mortification, he thinks it best to apply a cautery the moment the mortification appears, to prevent it from extending farther; but I have an application that is infinitely preferable to this, which is to dip the rags made use of for dressing, in water acidulated with a few drops of sulphuric acid, and to apply them immediately to the part affected.

The same disease raged at Gaza, but it was much more fatal to the inhabitants of that town, than it was to the garrison that was left there. Children, in particular, fell victims to it; and it is worthy of remark, that with them the buboes appeared on the parotid glands, as if this most obstinate of all diseases was subject to the influence of age, and as if the fluxionary movements of the plague conformed to the organic tendency

of the humours towards the head during the time of infancy.

Meanwhile the malady did not spare those who courageously opposed its ravages, and endeavoured to stop its progress. Almost all the officers of health of the hospital at Gaza perished; the young Bruant and Dewevre, the first physician, and the latter chief surgeon of that establishment, died within a few days of each other, equals in age and talents, and indefatigable in their professional duties; both were cut off in their prime. How tender and affecting is the regret expressed by M. Desgenettes for their premature loss!

The medical chest was exhausted of every thing, for blisters, for poultices, of quinquina, rhubarb, acids, and even vinegar. The healing art was destitute, at the same time, both of remedies and of ministers to administer them. The plague continued to make the most rapid progress.

Notwithstanding this almost total privation, the sick thronged in as great numbers as ever to the hospitals, where every thing was wanting, except the unwearied attention of the physicians that were still spared by the pestilence. M. Desgenettes multiplied himself, as it were, to give attendance wherever it was necessary; he braved, undaunted, a contagion so justly dreaded, and performing every duty, as well those that were imposed upon him by the honourable station that he held, as those prescribed by his uncommon philanthropy, he found resources in situations, which other men, with less intelligence and zeal, would have considered as desperate. Convalescents employed in waiting on the sick, for want of other attendants, caught the infection a second time; which refutes the assertion of some authors, that a person cannot be attacked twice successively by the plague the same season.

But we now come to a trait that deserves particular notice....In order to raise the drooping spirits of the army, and to persuade them that the danger was not so great as they imagined, he dipped a lancet, in the midst of the hospital, in the matter of a buboe, on a person in the first stage of recovery, and made a slight incision in his wrist, and another near his elbow, without taking any other precaution than washing himself with some soap and water which was brought him. For above three weeks he had two small inflamed spots, corresponding to the two incisions, and which were still very perceptible, when, upon his return to Acre, in the presence of the army, he bathed in the bay of Cæsarea.

This imperfect experiment, of which he conceived himself obliged to give some details, on account of the noise which it has made, proves nothing of any great importance to the art; it does not refute the transmission of the contagion, demonstrated by a thousand examples; it simply shows, that the conditions necessary for it to take place are not yet sufficiently demonstrated..... He thinks he ran a much greater risk, for the sake of an object of infinitely less utility, when, at the request of the quarter-master of the 75th demi-brigade, about an hour before his death, he drank a portion of his beveridge, out of his own glass, merely to afford him that gratification. This circumstance, which occurred in the presence of numerous witnesses, made M. Durand in particular, who happened to be in the tent, shudder with horror.

Within the walls of that same city of Acre, at the time of the crusades, the consort of a British prince sucked the wounds of her husband, reputed to be poisoned, from the ill conditioned state of them, but which was most probably pestilential, and by this means gave the world a most notable example of conjugal affection.

Amidst the grateful testimonies of affection with which he was daily greeted by the army, he was frequently asked by what means he became proof against the contagion.

It may not be amiss to observe, that the south-east wind elevated Reaumur's thermometer to 33 degrees. This wind raised a cloud of blackish dust, which chapped the lips and parched the skin; the west wind, which succeeded it, caused the thermometer to descend to 18 degrees. These meteorological observations, which were made by M. Cortaz, are valuable with regard to the reigning disease. M. Desgenettes remarks, contrary to the idea of most physicians, that intermittent, or sporadic affections, do not always assume the character of the reigning diseases, of which the celebrated Monge furnished him with an example.

I must not omit mentioning the opinion of the no less illustrious Berthollet, on the transmission of the pestilential contagion, by means of the saliva, which he considers as its vehicle.

My lady Montague, in a letter from Adrianople, observes, "That those dreadful stories you have heard of the plague, have little foundation in truth. I own I have much ado to reconcile myself to the sound of a word which has always given me such terrible ideas, though I am convinced there is little more in it than in a fever. As a proof of this, let me tell you, that we passed through two or three towns most violently infected. In the very next house where we lay (in one of those places) two persons died of it. Luckily for me, I was so well deceived, that I knew nothing of the matter, and I was made to believe that our second cook had only a great cold. However, we left our doctor to take care of him, and yesterday they both arrived here in good health, and I am let into the secret that he has had the plague. There are many that escape it; neither is the air ever infected. I am persuaded that it would be as easy a matter to root it out here, as out of Italy and France; but they are not very solicitous about it, and are contented to suffer this distemper, instead of our variety, which they are utterly unacquainted with.

18. Mr. N. G. Dufief has in the press a work upon the study of the French language, in two considerable volumes. This work is a system of instruction, which the writer has adopted from its conformity to the process of simple nature, and from his own long and multiplied experience of its success. He styles it *the method of Nature in teaching languages*, and he anticipates the most splendid success in his efforts to explain and introduce this method, in the seminaries, not only of America, but of every part of the world where the French language is attended to. This method possesses the singular excellence of being adapted to all languages. In the present publication, the author has applied it, in its fullest extent, only to the French tongue, on which we shall be here presented with a body of instruction, digested in a more luminous method, and comprehending a greater number of particulars, than is found in any work extant. So far as we are able to estimate the merit of works of this nature, we do not hesitate to bestow the feeble sanction of our praise, and the slender aid of our wishes for its success.

19. The Life of Washington is still in the press, but a second volume may be speedily expected. An anonymous critic, in our last number, has ventured to sit in judgment on the merits of this publication. He appears to have committed some material errors in his sketch of the design and extent of the work, and we, for our parts, entertain very different expectations of the issue of this arduous undertaking. We never doubted but that it will prove as splendid and durable a monument to the literary glory of MARSHALL, as to the political and military fame of WASHINGTON, and the specimen of historical skill and industry afforded by the first volume contributes to invigorate our hopes.

20. A 9th volume of the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, has appeared. The establishment of this society is well calculated to secure from oblivion many important but detached historical documents, not sufficiently voluminous to be printed in separate works. Persons in possession of such documents, would render a public service in transmitting them (free of expence) to this society, at Boston.

21. A member of this society has it in contemplation to publish a work in 2 volumes 8vo. to be entitled American Annals, to commence with the discovery of America, and be continued to the present time.... The events to be related in the order of time on the plan of chronology, but in cases of importance to be dilated on in the manner of history. The authorities to be given with precision. It will comprise an account of the scientific as well as civil establishments.

For the Literary Magazine.

EUROPEAN LITERARY NEWS.

A NEW magazine has appeared in London, entitled the Universal Theological Magazine and Impartial Review. It commenced in January, 1804, and is published monthly, by E. Vidler, a celebrated preacher among the methodists. Price 1s. ster. The following is extracted from his fourth number: "The Society for the Support and Encouragement of Sunday Schools in England and Wales, it appears by their last report, has, since the commencement of the institution, in 1785, assisted 2,232 schools, in which have been instructed 200,787 scholars, and among them have been distributed 184,248 spelling books, 42,680 testaments, 6583 bibles, and 4112l. sterl. (18,275 dolls. 55 cents.)

"Since 1799, about 100 Sunday schools have been instituted in South Wales, which have been assisted by the London Society with 2500 testaments and spelling books."

The Rev. Mr. Graves, of Claverton, near Bath, England, now upwards of 90 years of age, has just written a series of essays, under the title of The Invalid, on the means of preserving health and attaining old age. He has subjoined to the work a variety of original poems on the same subject, and a new translation of the golden verses of Pythagoras, made within these few weeks.

The lessons of so vigorous a nonagenarian, on the subject of health and long life, will doubtless be received by mankind with a degree of respect due to the venerable author of the Spiritual Quixote.

For the Literary Magazine.

THOUGHTS ON POVERTY.

Continued.

BUT the indigent must submit to many other evils, inconveniences, and privations, which those who have experienced them can best describe; yet imagination may wing its flight to the abodes of poverty, may see the wants and sorrows of their inhabitants, and bring home to the hearts of the affluent feeling for their afflictions, and create a desire to relieve their wants.

Among these evils, is the want of that respect from mankind which the wealthy receive, even when they have not merited it by their intrinsic worth, or the value of their services. Few pay that degree of respect to the indigent, to which they are entitled, even by their merit; yet wealth demands, and generally receives that respectful homage, which indigent merit dares not claim, and which mankind are not sufficiently just to award.

Let him who bears the marks of poverty, gather the most sensible observations, he will find many ready to contradict every assertion;

let him modestly express his opinions, his wishes, his likings, or antipathies, and each will generally be thought founded in error and prejudice: while he who wears the trappings of affluence, is listened to with silent attention, his observations are found just, his opinion is valued as important, and his advice (if not followed) is heard with deference, and apparent acquiescence..... But strip each of the gifts of fortune, let them appear on equal terms; modest merit will then step forth from the shade of obscurity, assert its claims, and receive its just reward; while ignorance and folly, no longer adorned with the parade of wealth, shrinks abashed from the view of its now triumphant opponent. Yet, let it not be imagined I suppose wealth and ignorance, poverty and merit, are always united; no, I only wish to show how little public regard is paid to merit without wealth, and how much to wealth without merit.

Still more bitter is the draught of poverty, when it falls to the lot of those whom age and infirmity have deprived of the physical power necessary for active exertion, or severe labour; to them the scene is indeed gloomy and forbidding: nothing but a cheerless waste, and a sky dark with the lowering clouds of affliction, present themselves to their view; bereft, perhaps, by death, of those whose affection would have supplied the wants, cheered the sullen hours of age, and smoothed the downhill path of life, they are condemned to retire into that last retreat of indigence....the alms-house; to live on the bounty of the public, and to die without a friend to close their eyes, and drop the tear of affectionate remembrance on their graves.

A friend of mine, whose dread of poverty is very great, frequently expresses his opinion on this subject in the following manner: "Nothing (says he) is more justly to be dreaded, than old age attended with poverty: a poor old man is too frequently regarded as little better than an useless piece of lumber, never of service, but frequently in the way: the younger part of mankind consider him in the light of a withered tree of the forest, once flourishing, but now decayed."

Though I am convinced by my own feelings and experience, that this picture of indigent old age is drawn in colours by far too dark to be correct, yet it cannot be denied that appearances seem in some cases to justify his observations, and it would well become every reflecting being to economise the earnings of youth to support the feebleness of long continued existence.

But when those become indigent who have once lived in affluence, whose education and consequent refinement have rendered them more susceptible of misery, they feel with additional force the privations of indigence: unaccustomed to struggle against the downhill torrent of adversity, feeble is their resistance, and unsuccessful their efforts; remembrance recalls the happy days of prosperity, when every want was satisfied, and every wish anticipated and fulfilled. The painful contrast forces itself into notice, and increases the severity of their fate. Severely indeed must they suffer from the chilling blasts of poverty, the cold neglect and contemptuous glance of their more fortunate companions, condemned perhaps to receive the miserable pittance which wealth bestows, and too frequently bestows with ostentation, from the hands of those whom they perhaps justly, though secretly despise, and whom they must treat with marks of esteem and gratitude.

Poverty is an enemy to independence: it is not easy to preserve that firm unbending dignity of character, that stern integrity and undeviating loftiness of spirit, which distinguishes the man of worth, who is conscious of his own merit, amidst the severe trials to which poverty exposes her reluctant followers..... The wants of nature are opposed

to the firmness of the mind, and most frequently decide the contest in their own favour.

But whether the poor are actually in a great degree more miserable than the wealthy, whether they feel the severities of their fate with so much force as is generally supposed, whether custom produces cheerfulness and contentment or not, is a question, which I confess myself unable to answer; certain it is, that custom and habit exert a powerful influence over the mind of man, nor can I see why they should not produce the same effects in this case as they do in others.

Poverty is a term not easily defined; every man is poor when compared with one much richer: thus almost all mankind are comparatively poor, yet not wanting the necessaries of life. Want in general may be avoided, by prudence and economy, virtues, I fear, not very common among those who are at all times but a small degree removed from actual want, its consequent inconveniences and distresses: too often does it happen, that scarcely has industry driven want from the door, when it is again invited by folly and extravagance.

Comparatively trifling expences make a deep impression on the finances of the really poor: these, if unnecessary, ought carefully to be avoided; but people of the above description are remarkable for their love of present enjoyment, in preference to future security; they seldom provide for a season of adversity, and when it comes, it brings additional distresses, because it finds them unprepared; yet distress, though proceeding from improvidence, ought still to excite commiseration and command relief, but is certainly better entitled to the donations of benevolence, when it is the consequence of unforeseen calamities, or unavoidable misfortunes.

VALVERDI.

Philadelphia, August 6th, 1804.

For the Literary Magazine.

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

AT a stated meeting of "The American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia for promoting useful Knowledge," on the 20th July, 1804, the following persons were duly elected members:

Le Baron Alexandre de Humboldt, of the Royal Academy of Prussia.

Joseph Willard, D. D. President of Howard College, Massachusetts.

William Short, of Virginia.

Zaccheus Collins, of Philadelphia.

The thanks of the society are presented to the following persons, for the *communications* and *donations* prefixed to their respective names.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Meteorological observations made at Loyalsock, Lycoming, 1803....Richard Ecroyd.

On the Mississippi and its Delta, also, Meteorological Observations made at the Natchez, 1801-2-3..... Wm. Dunbar, Esq.

On the fascination of serpents.... Dr. Hugh Williamson.

Observations on some fossil bones, &c.....Wm. Lewis, Esq. of Virginia.

Tracts and observations relative to the turkey.....Dr. B. S. Barton.

Account of the discharge of two worms from a child's ear, with the worms preserved in spirits....Dr. Hossac and Mr. Gillespie, of New York.

Observations on gypsum as a manure, also on the climate of Virginia, in a letter to Dr. Barton....from R. P. Barton, Esq.

Account of the maggotty bean or cassia chamicrista, as a manure, in a letter to Dr. Barton....from P. Custis, Esq.

Some account of the amelioration of climate in Massachusetts, from James Winthrop to F. Nichols.

Demonstration of a theorem proposed by Simson....Mr. Joseph Clay.

FOR THE CABINET.

1. A fine Italian marble bust of Franklin, executed at Florence.... J. R. Smith, Esq.

2. A profile of Dr. Priestley....Mr. Robert Patterson.

3. A profile cast of Lavosier.... Dr. J. R. Coxe.

4. A specimen of curious moss from Montgomery county.....J. B. Smith, Esq.

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Transactions of the Royal Society of St. Petersburg, 13th volume....The Society.

Transactions of the National Institute, 4th vol. in three parts, 4to. Camus's memoir on the voyages of De Bry and Thevenot, 4to....The Institute.

The ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth numbers Flora Batava....The Batavian Council of the Interior.

Collection of maxims and advice to intendants, &c. &c.....Dr. Val. de Forondu.

Warren's address on Vaccination. Account of Margate sea-bathing Infirmary. Account of Literary Fund Society. Dr. Glass's and Dr. Barry's annual Sermons before the Royal Humane Society. Plan of receiving-house of Royal Humane Society at Hyde Park. Account of Goldsmith's last illness by Dr. Hawes...The above from Dr. William Hawes, treasurer to R. H. Society.

Lathrop's discourse before the Society for propagating the Gospel. Thatcher's funeral Discourse on the death of Samuel Adams....Rev. John Elliot, Boston.

The Constitutionalist....Wm. Barton.

Rev. Dr. Smith's works, vol. 1st and 2d....Hugh Maxwell, publisher.

Carver's travels. Ramsay's oration on the cession of Louisiana.... Dr. Barton.

Brief Retrospect of the 18th century, 2 vols. 8vo. by the Rev. Samuel Miller, D. D.....The author.

Kramner's Dutch and German Dictionary....Michael Hillegas, Esq.

Inaugural Dissertations for the degree of Doctor of Medicine, in the university of Pennsylvania, presented by the authors or the professors:

S. T. Firth of New Jersey, on Malignant Fever. John Rush, Philadelphia, on Sudden Death. J. Hoskins, of Virginia, on Dysentery. P. Miller, of Philadelphia, on Parturition. P. Jenks, of Pennsylvania, on Yellow Fever. J. H. Camp, Virginia, on Mercury in Fevers. A. Brockenbrough, of Virginia, on the Laurus. E. A. Atlee, Pennsylvania, on the Influence of Music in Diseases. Jas. Cocke, Virginia, on Inflammation of Wounds. Wm. Darlington, Pennsylvania, on the Mutual Influence of Habits and Diseases. E. Griffiths, Pennsylvania, on Opthalmia. James Parker, N. Carolina, on Fractures of the Leg. James Archer, Maryland, on the Carbonates of Lime, &c. Wm. Shaw, of Philadelphia, on the Autumnal Fever, 1803. H. P. Whitnell, on the Powers of Nature in the Cure of Disease.

JOHN VAUGHAN,
Librarian.

Philadelphia, *26th July*, 1804.

For the Literary Magazine.

VACCINATION.

FROM the observations of Dr. Hebarden on the diseases of London, which are grounded on a strict examination of the bills of mortality for the last century, it appears that ONE TENTH OF ALL THE DEATHS was occasioned by THE SMALL POX, this disease alone having carried off near 200,000 in that period of time. In certain years, it has been particularly fatal; as appears by the following statement from the bills of mortality:

1710,	126½	in every 1000 deaths.
1719,	114	do.
1725,	125	do.
1736,	109	do.
1746,	115½	do.

1752,	173½	do.
1757,	154½	do.
1763,	137	do.
1768,	128	do.
1772,	153½	do.
1781,	169½	do.
1796,	184	do.

The number of deaths by the small pox in the twelve years mentioned above, was nearly 40,000, and more than one seventh of the whole number.

Innoculation for the small pox, whilst it generally secured the individual from danger, increased the number of deaths in the community, by keeping alive a contagious disorder.

Happily, vaccination affords an easy and safe means of securing the individual, without danger to the public.

It is upon this principle, that almost all the governments in Europe have warmly patronised the new practice, and made establishments, at the public expence, for extending its advantages over their respective countries.

Jenner, the great discoverer of this blessing, has received 50,000 dollars from the British parliament, and national marks of honour and respect from many other countries. In the United States its adoption has been rapid, extensive, and attended with uncommon success, notwithstanding the errors which were incident to a new practice, but which vanish before experience.

One prejudice only remains to be overcome, to make it completely banish that loathsome disorder the small pox, viz. that of confining its practice to particular seasons: with the small pox this was proper; but VACCINATION CAN BE SAFELY PERFORMED AT ALL SEASONS, ALL ages, and in circumstances where the small pox would be almost certain death. Such being the case, why will MOTHERS, by delay, render themselves liable to the risk of losing their children by that terrible disorder, when they can so easily prevent it?

For the Literary Magazine.

ANECDOTES.

From the French.

AT the battle of Minden, Saint Peru, who commanded the French grenadiers, finding them exposed to the fire of a battery, that carried off whole files, trotted calmly along the line, with his snuff-box in his hand, exclaiming "Eh bien! mes enfans, qu'est ce que c'est? du canon? eh bien, ça tue, ca tue, voila tout!"

The Abbe Prevost happening to to entertain some friends at supper, one of his guests asserted that the most honest man in the world could not promise to himself, but that he might some day experience the punishment reserved for the vilest criminals. All present but the host protested, in succession, against this assertion; he, when it came to his turn, calmly observed that it was very possible. "You will doubtless allow," added he, "that I am an honest man!" "Yes!" rejoined the whole of the company. "Well then," continued the Abbe, "you are all my friends, I depend upon your discretion, and I am now about to confide a secret to you, which I have never before intrusted to any one. I have been guilty, then, of one of the greatest crimes, and liable to perish by an ignominious death!"

On this, all present burst into a laugh, thinking the whole to be jest; but after assuring them that he was in earnest, he proceeded as follows:

"I shall now explain this enigma to you, by stating that I killed my own father. On leaving college, I became enamoured of a little girl in the neighbourhood, nearly of my own age; I was beloved again, and, in short, obtained every thing that a favoured admirer could desire, so that the most flagrant proofs of our indiscretion were soon visible. I was so smitten with love, that I was desirous to pass my whole life with, and be always at the side, of my mistress. In the mean time, my relations pressed me to decide on my

future station in life; I, on the other hand, was averse from any thing, but the secret adoration of the female to whom I was attached; every other occupation appeared to me disagreeable.

"My father, who had begun to conceive some suspicions relative to the motives of this indifference, now watched all my motions, and at length detected the whole intrigue. On this he repaired to the apartment of my mistress, then three or four months with child, at the very moment, too, when I happened to be there, and reproached her bitterly in my presence on account of her criminal connexion with me. I, however, preserved the most profound silence until after he had overwhelmed her with injuries, observing, at the same time, that she would prove an obstacle to my rise in life. Then, and then only, she began to justify herself, and having burst into tears, I, for the first time, presumed to defend her.

"My father, at this, became outrageous, and carried his passion so far as to strike the poor unfortunate creature; he even gave her a kick in the belly, on which she fainted away. No sooner did this occur than, losing all recollection, I flew on my parent, and precipitated him over the stair-case, in consequence of which he was so dangerously wounded by the fall, that he ceased to exist in the course of the same evening.

"He, however, had the generosity to forbear mentioning the circumstance; and it being supposed that he had died a natural death, he was buried in the usual manner, and I was thus saved by his silence both from punishment and opprobrium. Notwithstanding this, I was not the less sensible of the enormity of my fault, and I for a long time preserved a certain kind of melancholy, which nothing could dissipate. In consequence of such a fatal event I determined to bury my regret and my affliction within the solitude of a cloister, and I accordingly made choice of the order of Clugny for that purpose. It is, perhaps, to be attributed to the profound melancholy which this first error of my youth imparted to the rest of my life, that I have always made choice of tragic events, of critical situations, and of sombre and lugubrous colours, for the subjects of my literary speculations."

For the Literary Magazine.

GODWIN AND MALTHUS.

THE lapse of ten or twelve years has almost consigned to oblivion that controversy which was raised by the publication of "Political Justice." The author, unlike most founders of new sects and systems, seems to have resigned his theories to their destiny, without a struggle, and to have turned his attention and his pen to pursuits and themes that are rather repugnant than favourable to his ancient schemes.

In the memoirs of St. Leon, he has laboured to throw an air of dignity and probability round one of the exploded and most groundless superstitions and delusions of the middle ages.

In the life of Chaucer, he has, in like manner, endeavoured to bring forth in a specious and venerable attire, the military and poetical genius of a barbarous and ferocious age. He has laboured to exalt the names of such men as John of Gaunt and the Black Prince; to embalm the exploded principles of chivalry; and foster the most fantastical impulses of patriotism or the national spirit. The author may, directly or indirectly, be considered as having renounced his former principles of policy and government.

This change may chiefly be ascribed to the writings of Mr. Malthus, whose Essay on Population may be justly deemed one of the finest pieces of controversial eloquence that is extant. The skill of this writer is equalled by his candour and moderation, and this book

is not only a lesson of instruction in the science of politics, but a pattern of the right mode of managing a debate.

Mr. Malthus's work has lately been republished, with large additions, so as to become a regular system on the subject. This work is very little known in America, though none of the productions of the day deserve to be more so; and though the practical instruction to be gathered from it is more applicable to the state of society in Europe, it is far from being inapplicable to our own. It will be performing a public service to diffuse among the learned and enlightened of our own nation the contents of this work, and therefore I hope to see it soon republished in America. Meanwhile the following brief account of this book may not be unacceptable.

In an enquiry concerning the future improvement of society, Mr. M. remarks, that the mode of conducting the subject which naturally presents itself is, first, an investigation of the causes that have hitherto impeded the progress of mankind towards happiness; and, secondly, an examination into the probability of the total or partial removal of those causes in future. But as it would be beyond the power of any one to enter fully into this question, and to enumerate all the causes which have hitherto influenced human improvement, he has confined himself to the effects produced by one great cause only, which is intimately united with the very nature of man, and which, from the commencement of society, has exerted one constant and powerful operation. *This cause is the tendency in all animated life to encrease beyond the nourishment prepared for its support.*

Man, in common with all animals and plants, is excited by a powerful instinct to increase his species; if the germs of animal and vegetable existence contained in this spot of earth had ample room for expansion, and ample food for subsistence, millions of worlds would be filled, in the space of a few thousand years, with animal and vegetable existencies. This natural fecundity is repressed by want of room and want of nourishment; and that it must ever be so repressed, will appear from a comparison of the two rules of increase, that of the productions of the earth under the most favourable circumstances of human industry, and that of the increase of population when left to exert itself with perfect freedom. In the northern states of America population was found to double itself for some successive periods every twenty-five years: in the back settlements, it has been found to double itself in fifteen, and sir William Petty supposes a doubling possible within ten years. Mr. M. takes the largest of these terms, and he is unquestionably justified in pronouncing that population, when unchecked, goes on doubling itself every twenty-five years, and thus increases in a geometrical ratio.

The rate according to which the productions of the earth may be supposed to increase, it will not be so easy to determine; when acre has been added to acre, till all the fertile land is occupied, the yearly increase of food must depend upon the amelioration of the land already in possession. "This is a stream," says Mr. M. "which, from the nature of all soils, instead of increasing, must be gradually diminishing. But population, could it be supplied with food, would go with unexhausted vigour, and the increase of one period would furnish the powers of a greater increase to the next, and this without any limit." Japan and China are already so highly cultivated, that perhaps no human industry could double the produce of these countries, even in any given number of years. Were there, however, sufficient food and sufficient room in China and Japan; in other words, were the natural tendency to population to meet with no interruption, no check, those countries would be doubled in as short a time as the back settlements of America.

But to place the argument on its most advantageous ground, we must come home to Europe, where there is a larger proportion of ground uncultivated than in Japan and China, and where the science of agriculture is so well understood, that human industry has the fairest chance of receiving its best direction. Let it be granted, then, that by the best possible policy, and by great encouragements to agriculture, the average produce of Great Britain, for instance, might be doubled, together with its population, in the first twenty-five years. Population goes on uninterruptedly, and in the second twenty-five years becomes quadrupled. But can it be supposed that, by any system of policy and encouragement, the produce of the soil of Great Britain could also be quadrupled in the second twenty-five years? On the contrary, is it not almost a self-evident proposition, "that in proportion as cultivation is extended, the addition that could yearly be made to the former average produce must be gradually and regularly diminishing?" Mr. M. however, gives the vantage ground to his antagonist, and considers that the yearly additions which might be made to the former average produce, instead of decreasing, as they certainly would do, will remain the same; that is to say, that the produce of this island might be increased every twenty-five years by a quantity equal to what it at present produces. "The most enthusiastic speculator," says he, "cannot suppose a greater increase than this: in a few centuries it would make every acre of land like a garden..... Apply this to the whole earth; allow that its produce shall every twenty-five years be increased by a quantity equal to what it at present produces, and this will be supposing a rate of increase much greater than we can imagine that any possible exertions of mankind could make it. The means of subsistence, therefore, under the most favourable circumstances, cannot possibly be made to increase faster than in an *arithmetical* ratio, while human population, under the most favourable circumstances, would increase in a *geometrical* ratio. "The necessary effect of these two different rates of increase." says Mr. M. "when brought together, will be very striking. Let us call the population of this island eleven millions; and suppose the present produce equal to the easy support of such a number. In the first twenty-five years the population would be twenty-two millions; and the food being also doubled, the means of subsistence would be equal to this increase. In the next twenty-five years the population would be forty-four millions, and the means of subsistence only equal to the support of thirty-three millions. In the next period the population would be eighty-eight millions, and the means of subsistence just equal to the support of half that number. And at the conclusion of the first century, the population would be a hundred and seventy-six millions, and the means of subsistence only equal to the support of fifty-five millions; leaving a population of a hundred and twenty-one millions totally unprovided for.

"Taking the whole earth, instead of the island of Great Britain, emigration would of course be excluded; and supposing the present population equal to a thousand millions, the human species would increase as the numbers 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, and subsistence as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. In two centuries the population would be to the means of subsistence as 256 to 9; in three centuries as 4096 to 13, and in two thousand years the difference would be almost incalculable. In this supposition no limits whatever are placed to the produce of the earth. It may increase for ever, and be greater than any assignable quantity; yet still the power of population being in every period so much superior, the increase of the human species can only be kept down to the level of the means of subsistence, by the constant operation of the strong law

of necessity, acting as a check upon the greater power."

Having thus stated the argument, Mr. M. proceeds to notice general checks to population and the mode of their operation. These checks he clases under two general heads, the preventive and positive; the former is peculiar to man, and arises from that distinctive superiority in his reasoning faculties, which enables him to calculate distant consequences. Man, before he enters into the conjugal state, ponders upon the probability or the improbability that his earnings, now perhaps little more than adequate to his comfortable subsistence, will be sufficient, when divided among a wife and half a dozen children, of supporting them at all: he forsees that he must work harder and fare worse. He reflects that perhaps his offspring as well as himself, must be half starved and half naked. These and many similar considerations do certainly prevent a great number of persons in all civilized nations from pursuing the dictates of nature in early attachment to one woman. The consequence of this restraint is at least a certain degree of temporary unhappiness: it very generally produces vice; because it produces that promiscuous intercourse of the sexes which again produces a corruption of morals, and of course introduces the diversified catalogue of human crimes. "The positive checks to population are extremely various, and include every cause, whether arising from vice or misery, which in any degree contributes to shorten the natural duration of human life. Under this head, therefore, may be enumerated all unwholesome occupations, severe labour, and exposure to the seasons, extreme poverty, bad nursing of children, great towns, excesses of all kinds, the whole train of common diseases, and epidemics, wars, pestilence, plague, and famine. On examining these obstacles to the increase of population, which are here classed under the heads of preventive and positive checks, it will appear that they are resolvable into moral restraint, vice, and misery.

"Of the preventive checks, that which is not followed by irregular gratifications, may properly be termed *moral restraint*.

"Promiscuous intercourse, unnatural passions, violations of the marriage bed, and improper arts to conceal the consequences of irregular connections, clearly come under the head of *vice*.

"Of the positive checks, those which appear to arise unavoidably from the laws of nature may be called exclusively misery; and those which we obviously bring upon ourselves, such as wars, excesses, and many others which it would be in our power to avoid, are of a mixed nature. They are brought upon us by vice, and their consequences are *misery*.

"In every country some of these checks are, with more or less force, in constant operation; yet, notwithstanding their general prevalence, there are few states in which there is not a constant effort in the population to increase beyond the means of subsistence. This constant effort as constantly tends to subject the lower classes of society to distress, and to prevent any great permanent amelioration of their conditions."

This conflict between the uniform tendency to increase population on the one hand, and the checks which restrain it on the other, produces an oscillation in the state of society.... an alternation of retrogade and progressive movements dependent on the degree of comforts or misery, vice or morality, which prevails. Without attempting to establish in all cases these progressive or retrogade movements in different countries, Mr. M. contents himself with proving the following propositions: 1. That population is necessarily limited by the means of subsistence. 2. That population invariably increases when the means of subsistence increase, unless prevented by some very powerful and obvious checks; and 3, that these checks,

and the checks which repress the superior power of population, and keep its effects on a level with the means of subsistence, are all resolvable into moral restraint, vice, and misery.

The first of these propositions is obvious; the second and third are established by a review of the past and present state of society. He begins by considering the checks to population which operated in the less civilized parts of the world, and in past times, and devotes separate chapters to an investigation of the checks among the American Indians, the South Sea islanders, the ancient inhabitants of the north of Europe, modern pastoral nations, different parts of Africa, Siberia, northern and southern; the Turkish dominions and Persia; Hindostan and Thibet; China and Japan; the Greeks and the Romans.

Mr. M. proceeds to consider the checks to population in the different states of modern Europe....Norway, Sweden, Russia, the middle parts of Europe, Switzerland, France, England, Scotland, and Ireland; and from this extensive view of society draws some general deductions, illustrating the truth of his three propositions.

He then treats of the different systems or expedients which have been proposed or have prevailed in society, as they affect the evils arising from the principle of population. The systems which come first under discussion are those of Condorcet and Godwin. In these flattering visions of beatitude and equality, their respective authors appear to be sensible that when all the obstructions to population, or, as Mr. M. would denominate them, the preventive and positive checks are removed (and the removal of these obstructions is the very essence of their system), that the increase of the number of men may surpass their means of subsistence, and of course that this period is the limit when all further improvement in society will be impossible. But they look upon this period as so remote that it cannot have the least weight in opposition to their scheme. Now, if the principles of this book are just; if the ratio between the unrestricted increase of population and food be correct, it is obvious that the period when the number of men surpass their means of subsistence is already arrived; that the population is already pressing hard against the limits of the means of subsistence: that this pressure has existed ever since we have had any histories of mankind, does exist at present, and will for ever exist, unless some change takes place in the physical constitution of our nature. Condorcet proceeds to argue on the organic perfectibility of man: we are sorry that so delightful a theory has met with an utter overthrow. According to the beautiful system which Godwin proposes, peace is to dwell upon earth, and good-will to be universally diffused among men; the condition of every man is to be equal to that of his neighbour; benevolence is to be substituted for self-love, as the grand principle of action; reason and justice are to hold an unbounded sway; moral restraint is entirely to supersede the necessity of political regulations; and chains and dungeons are to be no more heard of. Godwin, as he attributes almost all the vice and misery which now prevail in civil society to human institutions, by sweeping from the face of the earth all these "systems of fraud and oppression," flatters himself, of course, that vice and misery will be swept off with them. Mr. M. considers the mal-influence of human institutions as truly insignificant, compared with "those deeper-seated causes of evil, which result from the laws of nature;" from the principle, in short, of population. The difficulty to Godwin's system arising from an overcharged population did not escape him; but, like Condorcet, he asserts that the evil is too remote to be dreaded. "Three-fourths of the habitable globe is now uncultivated. The parts already cultivated are capable of immeasurable im-

provement: myriads of centuries of still increasing population may pass away, and the earth be still found sufficient for the subsistence of its inhabitants." In order to show the error of this opinion and the fragility of Godwin's system, Mr. M. supposes it realized in its utmost extent. All the causes of vice and misery in Britain are removed; "war and contention cease; unwholesome trades and manufactories do not exist; crouds no longer collect together in great and pestilential cities, for purposes of court intrigue, of commerce, and vicious gratification; simple, healthy, and rational amusements take place of drinking, gaming, and debauchery; there are no towns sufficiently large to have any prejudicial effects on the human constitution; the greater part of the happy inhabitants of this terrestial paradise live in hamlets and farm-houses, scattered over the face of the country; all men are equal; the labours of luxury are at an end, and the necessary labours of agriculture are shared amicably among all; the number of persons and the produce of the island we suppose to be the same as at present; the spirit of benevolence, guided by impartial justice, will divide the produce among all the members of society according to their wants. Though it would be impossible that they should all have animal food every day, yet vegetable food, with meat occasionally, would satisfy the desires of a frugal people, and would be sufficient to preserve them in health, strength, and spirits."

The commerce of the sexes is to be established on principles of perfect freedom: but Godwin is of opinion, and he is very probably right, that population would not be impeded by promiscuous intercourse, which, as it is the result of a vicious and unnatural taste, could not generally prevail; and as nobody could be deterred from sexual intercourse in a state where "provisions and assistance would spontaneously flow from the quarter in which they abounded to the quarter in which they were deficient," almost every woman would be a mother, and every man a father. With such extraordinary encouragements to population, the numbers would increase faster than in any society that has ever yet been known. The inhabitants of the back settlements of America double their number in fifteen years; but not to take advantage of an extreme case, Mr. M. supposes that England would in such circumstances only double its population in twenty-five years, the ratio of increase which prevails throughout the northern states of America. Now bringing together the ratios of increase of food and population, Godwin's myriads of centuries, which are to elapse before the earth is so supersaturated with men as to afford them insufficient sustenance, will be found to dwindle into thirty or forty years. In twenty-five years England is to have a population of twenty-two millions; and according to hypothesis, by the careful cultivation of the soil, it is also to yield a double increase of food: take the next period, in fifty years we are to have forty-four millions of mouths: but where is the fresh land to be turned up? if the grazing ground had in the first period been converted into corn-fields, whence to come the manure for improving the cultivation? To any man who reflects upon the subject, it is obviously impossible that the average produce of the country could be increased during the second twenty-five years, by a quantity equal to what it at present yields. Mr. M. however, has already allowed it in his hypothesis, the exuberant strength of his argument allowing of almost any concession: grant it then....but at the end of the second period only, here are eleven millions of people unprovided for! The whole population of England, as it stands at present! "Alas, what becomes of the picture," exclaims Mr. M. in a burst of eloquence, "where men lived in the midst of plenty, where no man was obliged to provide with anxiety

and pain for his restless wants; where the narrow principle of selfishness did not exist; where the mind was delivered from her perpetual anxiety about corporeal support, and free to expatiate in the field of thought which is congenial to her? This beautiful fabric of the imagination vanishes at the severe touch of truth. The spirit of benevolence, cherished and invigorated by plenty, is repressed by the chilling breath of want. The hateful passions that had vanished re-appear. The mighty law of self-preservation expels all the softer and more exalted emotions of the soul. The temptations to evil are too strong for human nature to resist. The corn is plucked before it is ripe, or secreted in unfair proportions; and the whole black train of vices that belong to falsehood are immediately generated. Provisions no longer flow in for the support of a mother with a large family. The children are sickly from insufficient food. The rosy flush of health gives place to the pallid cheek and hollow eye of misery. Benevolence, still lingering in a few bosoms, makes some faint expiring struggles, till at length self-love resumes his wonted empire, and lords it triumphant over the world."

Mr. Godwin, in his "Reply to the Attack of Dr. Parr, Mr. Mackintosh, the author of an Essay on Population, and others," animadverted to those parts of that essay which bear hardest upon his system. In the present re-publication, Mr. M. has made some observations on that reply. Mr. Godwin, with the provoking ingenuity of a practised dialectician, has inferred from the positions of Mr. M. that, as the evils of excessive population are so formidable; as the ratio of its increase is so rapid; and as vice and misery are the only checks which keep this mighty power within bounds; that it is incumbent on the rulers of a country to promote vice and misery as the guardians of human happiness, and that no evil is more to be dreaded than that we should have too little of them in the world! Mr. M. has certainly succeeded in proving that vice and misery confines the principle of population within due bounds, and that without these checks, excessive population would lead to vice and misery. The sole question then is respecting the magnitude of the evil. A certain portion of vice, misery, or *moral restraint*,* are avowedly necessary to confine the principle of population within due bounds: but Mr. M. objects to Mr. Godwin's system, from a full conviction that that system, which allows the principle of population its unopposed career, would very greatly increase the sum of vice and misery in society.

"If Mr. Godwin," says he, "will undo this conviction, and prove to me, though it be only in theory, provided that theory be consistent, and founded on a knowledge of human nature, that his system will really tend to drive vice and misery from the earth, he may depend upon having me one of its steadiest and warmest advocates."

Mr. Godwin's system would have been less exposed to objection, if in his victory of mind over matter, he had also contrived to extinguish the passion between the sexes....if he had made the intercourse a mere matter of duty. The consequence to which his system now leads, would have been avoided. Moral restraint would alone have regulated the proportion of population to the means of sustenance, and neither vice nor misery would have been called in to prevent a disproportioned population, or to thin it. Moral restraint,

* Mr. Malthus, in his former essay, had omitted moral restraint, and resolved all the resistances to superabundant population into vice and misery. The addition of this third check, indeed, seems unnecessary; if a young man and a young woman, attached to each other, are prohibited from marrying, from the fear of being unable to support a family, this moral restraint to their virtuous inclinations is a palpable infelicity, and is certainly a shade of misery.

in this case, would have been as nothing; for the passion being extinguished, *per hypothesis*, there would have been no deprivation of indulgence, no sensual desiderata.

Mr. M. proceeds to notice the operation of the poor-laws, of emigration, of the agricultural and commercial systems, and of the exportation of corn, on the condition of the poor; and he throws considerable light on these intricate questions.

The last book treats of our future prospects respecting the removal or mitigation of the evils arising from the principle of population. As it appears that in the actual state of every society, the natural progress of population has been constantly and powerfully checked; and as it appears, after a careful and candid examination of the different systems which have been suggested or adopted for mitigating the evil arising from this principle of population, that no form of government, however excellent, no plans of emigration, no benevolent institutions, no degree or direction of national industry, can prevent the action of a great check to increase in some form or other; as we must submit to it as an inevitable law of nature, the only inquiry that remains is, how it may take place with the least possible prejudice to the virtue and happiness of human society. The checks to population are all resolvable into moral restraint, vice, and misery, the two latter being positive, the former a preventive, check. Now, as it is clearly better that the check to population should arise from a foresight of the difficulty of rearing a family, and the fear of dependent poverty, than from the actual presence of pain and sickness, moral restraint is that virtue the practice of which is most earnestly to be encouraged. If no man were to marry who had not a fair prospect of providing for the presumptive issue of his marriage, population would be kept within bounds by the preventive check: men and women would marry later in life, but, on the full hope of their reward, they would acquire habits of industry and frugality, and inculcate lessons of them in the minds of their children*. But it will be objected, is the iron hand of law to oppose the dictates of nature, and forbid the contract of a marriage between two persons of full age? Certainly not, says Mr. M. but let not the contract of marriages between persons who have no other prospect of providing for their offspring than by throwing them on a parish, be, as it is now, encouraged by law. One of the effects of the poor-laws is to encourage marriage between persons of this description, who well know that, if they cannot provide for their own children, the parish must take them off their hands. These laws create much more mendicity than they relieve; they create mouths, but are perfectly incompetent to procure food for them. Instead of raising the real price of

* The only forcible objection against urging this duty of moral restraint upon the poor is, that the promiscuous intercourse between the sexes would be increased. Powerful as may be the temptations to a breach of chastity (says Mr. M.), I am inclined to think they are impotent in comparison of the temptations arising from continued distress. Mr. Malthus's reasoning on this head is not quite satisfactory. There is an objection against marriages late in life, which does not appear to have occurred to Mr. Malthus; if a woman of twenty marries a man two or three years older than herself, the couple may fairly expect to live and enjoy the delight of seeing their family all settled in life, married perhaps, and rearing a second family. He may address his Winifreda in the words of that beautiful address to conjugal love:

And when with envy Time transported,
Shall think to rob us of our joys,
You'll in your girls again be courted,
And I'll go wooing in my boys.

A man who delays the matrimonial connection till forty, has certainly a less distinct view of this second spring-time of life, and is more likely to leave a young, unsettled, unprovided family behind him.

labour, by increasing the demand for labourers, they tend to overstock the market, to reduce the demand, and diminish the value. They raise the price of provisions by increasing the demand for them, and by supplying the parochial pensioners with the means of obtaining them. In consequence of this, that class of industrious labourers who have too generous a pride to solicit assistance, are oftentimes sunk in the scale of misery, much lower than others who have thrown off all sense of shame, and all the honest feelings of independence. Taken in a moral as well as in a political view, these laws are equally bad: the parish tells a husband, he may forsake a wife with impunity....tells a mother, that, if she deserts her children, they will be taken care of in her absence: to use the words of Mr. Malthus, we take all possible pains to weaken and render null the ties of nature, and then say that men are unnatural: the fact is, that the society itself, in its body politic, is the unnatural character for framing laws that thus counteract the laws of nature, and give premiums to the violation of the best and most honourable feelings of the human heart. Mr. Malthus, however, is too wise and humane to propose that a system should immediately and abruptly be abolished, the abolition of which, however beneficial it would eventually prove, must be attended with much present distress. He has, therefore, proposed a plan for the gradual abolition of these laws, which, to us at least, does not lie open to any serious objection. He proposes that no child born from any marriage taking place after the expiration of a year from the date of the law, and no illegitimate child born two years from the same date, should be entitled to parish assistance. This, he remarks, would operate as a fair, distinct, and precise notice, which no man could mistake; and, without pressing hard on any particular individual, would at once throw off the rising generation from that miserable and helpless dependence upon the government and the rich, the moral as well as the physical consequences of which are almost incalculable.

For the Literary Magazine.

WORKS IN PRISON.

GREAT literary works are usually the offspring of compulsion or necessity. Among the curious and characteristic instances of works produced in a prison, either as a penalty imposed, or to relieve the irksomeness of solitude, the following instances are on record:

Cervantes wrote his Don Quixote to amuse his heavy hours, in a jail.

Sir Walter Raleigh wrote his History of the World, during his confinement in the tower of London.

Condorcet composed his posthumous work on human perfectibility, while proscribed and in concealment from his persecutors.

Mirabeau, a great revolutionary name, during his imprisonment in the dungeons of the castle of Vincennes, translated, for the use of his mistress, the elegies of Tibullus and the Kisses of Secundus.

Buchanan, the greatest of modern Latin poets, was imprisoned by the Portuguese inquisition at Lisbon, and compelled, by way of penance, to translate the Psalms of David into Latin verse, a task he has performed in a style and numbers truly Horatian.

Boethius wrote his "Consolations of Philosophy," while shut up in a tower by Theodoric.

Voltaire's Henriade was written during his confinement in the Bastile.

Thus mixed and motlied are the consequences of all events, and thus are all human calculations, as to the good or evil of particular actions and situations, baffled and confounded; and thus is the weakness of humanity apparent, in requiring the impulse of grinding and grovelling

necessity to the performance of great intellectual undertakings.

For the Literary Magazine.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF GESSNER.

Abstracted from a large work in German.

GESSNER is mostly known, in the countries that speak English, by his Death of Abel; in France, his Idylles were received with greater rapture; in Switzerland he was idolized. We should not, perhaps, have given him a place in the higher order of poets; but his rank in the next class would certainly have been very respectable. The Swiss, as well as Germans, are not very moderate in their praises; and as they but lately have begun to make a figure in the world of taste and literature, we must allow for their gratitude to the persons to whom both nations are so much indebted.

Solomon Gessner was born at Zurich, on the first of April, 1730. In his youth he gave no symptoms of future greatness; at least his parents and teachers saw none: and Simler, a man of some learning, was not able to raise the hopes of the father, when he assured him that the boy had talents, which, though now hid, would sooner or later show themselves, and exalt him far above his school-fellows. As he made so little progress at Zurich, he was sent to Berg, and put under a clergyman, where retirement, and the picturesque scenery around him, laid the foundation for a change of character. After two years' residence at Berg, he returned to his father, who was a bookseller at Zurich, and whose shop was resorted to by men of genius. Here his poetical talents in some slight degree displayed themselves,...better than might be expected from a lad of nineteen, but not sufficiently to deter his father from sending him to Berlin, in 1749, to qualify him for his own trade. Here the young poet was employed in packing and unpacking: on the outside rather than the inside of books. This life displeased him. He ran away, hired a chamber to himself; and his parents, according to the usual mode, thought to bring him to his senses by withholding all supplies. Gessner, resolving to be independent, shut himself up in his chamber, and after some weeks went to his friend Hempel, a celebrated artist, whom he requested to return with him to his lodgings. The apartment was covered with fresh landscapes, which the young recluse had painted with sweet oil, and by which he hoped to make his fortune. The shrug of his friend concluded with an assurance, that, though his works were not likely to be rated very highly in their present state, very great expectations might be formed, if he continued the same application ten years longer.

Fortunately, his parents relented, and he was permitted to spend his time as he liked at Berlin. Here he formed acquaintance with artists and men of letters; with Krause; Hempel; Ramler; Sulzer. Ramler was his friend, from the fineness of whose ear and taste he derived great advantages. With much diffidence he presented to Ramler some of his compositions: but every verse and word were criticised, and very few could pass unimpaired or unaltered through the fiery trial. The Swiss dialect, he found at last, was the chief obstacle; and the exertions requisite to satisfy a German ear, would be excessive. Ramler advised him to clothe his thoughts in harmonious prose; this counsel he followed: and the lesson may be of use among writers, where many a would-be poet is hammering at a verse, which, from the circumstances of his birth and education, he can never make agreeable to the ear of taste.

From Berlin Gessner went to Hamburg, with letters of recommendation to Hagedorn; but he chose to make himself acquainted

with him at a coffee-house, before the letters were delivered. A close intimacy followed; and he had the advantages of the literary society which Hamburgh at that time afforded. Thence he returned home with his taste much refined; and, fortunately for him, he came back when his countrymen were in some degree capable of enjoying his future works. Had he produced them twenty years before, his Daphnis would have been hissed at as immoral; his Abel would have been preached against as profane.

This period may be called the Augustan age of Germany. Klopstock, Ramler, Kleist, Gleim, Utz, Lessing, Wieland, Rabener, were rescuing their country from the sarcasms of the great Frederic. Klopstock paid about this time a visit to Zurich, and fired every breast with poetical ardour. He had scarce left the place, when Wieland came; and by both the young poet was well received. After a few anonymous compositions, he tried his genius on a subject which was started by the accidental perusal of the translation of Longus; and his Daphnis was improved by the remarks of his friend Hirzel, the author of the Rustic Socrates. Daphnis appeared, first without a name, in the year 1754; it was followed, in 1756, by Inkle and Yarico; and Gessner's reputation was spread in the same year over Germany and Switzerland by his pastorals. His brother poets acknowledged the merit of these light compositions, as they were pleased to call them, but thought their author incapable of reaching the grander plans or honours of heroic poetry. To these critics he soon after offered his Death of Abel.

In 1762, he collected his poems in four volumes, in which were some new pieces that had never before made their appearance. In 1772, he produced his second volume of pastorals, with some letters on landscape painting. These met with the most favourable reception in France, where they were translated and imitated, as they also were, though with less success, in Italy and England.

Hitherto we have considered Gessner only as a poet; he was also an artist. Till his thirtieth year, painting was only a casual amusement; but he then became acquainted with Heidegger, a man of taste, whose collection of paintings and engravings was thus thrown open to him. The daughter made an impression on him; but the circumstances of the lovers were not favourable to an union, till, through the activity and friendship of the burgomaster Heidegger, and Hirzel, he was enabled to accomplish his wishes. How were the married couple to live? The pen affords a very poor maintenance in England; still less in Switzerland. The poet had too much spirit to depend on others; and he determined to pursue the arts no longer as amusements, but as the means of a livelihood.

Painting and engraving alternately filled that time which was not occupied with poetry; and in these arts, if he did not arrive at great eminence, he was distinguished by that simplicity, that elegance, that singularity, which are the characteristics of his poetry. His wife was not idle: besides the care of her house, and the education of her children, for which no one was better qualified, the whole burthen of the shop (for he was bookseller as well as poet, engraver, and painter) lay on her shoulders.

In his manners, Gessner was cheerful, lively, and at times playful; fond of his wife and his children. He had no pretensions to learning, yet he could read the Latin poets in the original; and of the Greek he preferred the Latin to the French translations. In his early years he led either a solitary life, or confined himself to men of taste and literature: as he grew older, he accustomed himself to general conversation; and in his later years his house was the central point of the men of the first rank for

talents or fortune in Zurich. Here they met twice a week, and formed a *conversazione* of a kind seldom if ever met with in great cities, and very rarely any where. The politics of England destroy such meetings in London, where the Sunday evening assembly of best resort may be compared rather to the confusion and insignificance of a lady's rout, than to the resort of genius, taste, and literature. Gessner, with his friends, enjoyed that simplicity of manners, which makes society agreeable; and at his rural residence in summer, a little way from town, they brought back the memory of the golden age.

Gessner died of an apoplexy on the second of March, 1788, leaving a widow, three children, and a sister, behind. His youngest son married a daughter of his father's friend, Wieland. His fellow citizens have erected a statue to his honour, in his favourite walk on the banks of the Limmot, where it meets the Sihl.

For the Literary Magazine.

ADVERSARIA.

NO. I.

I HAVE supposed, that under this title might be given a collection of original and selected anecdotes, critical remarks, and passages distinguished either for their truth or beauty, which would be productive of some amusement to your readers. With the hope, therefore, of contributing some slight assistance to you in your literary labour, the plan has been adopted; and this number may afford you such an idea of its intention and execution, as will enable you either to reject or approve it. As no fame can be derived from so humble an employment, I shall not scruple to indulge my indolence, by copying whatever may conduce to its success.

STYLE.

Perhaps nothing so much contributes to the fame of a writer, as his style. It is this which forces the homage of readers, even when they despise his sentiments, or view his facts with the eye of incredulity..... From what other cause is it that Hume is the companion of every reader, whilst Carter, and Clarendon, and Henry, repose unmolested, save by the moths, on the shelves of the curious? Dr. Blair has bestowed much attention upon this subject, and his ingenuity has invented some directions for forming a good style, from which I do not think a student can derive much advantage; for style, like genius, cannot be formed by rules. If style be the PECULIAR MANNER IN WHICH A MAN EXPRESSES HIS CONCEPTIONS, BY MEANS OF LANGUAGE, critical rules, however useful in affairs of grammar, cannot form a style. A good style is only to be formed by an attentive perusal of the most classical writers, and by depositing in the memory a copious fund of *names of ideas*. The canons of criticism will then serve to prevent us from deviating from the strict bounds of grammar. Johnson, and Blair, and Hume may improve; but the rudiments must be formed by our own thoughts. I must not be understood as attempting to persuade any foolish wight, that style is the only requisite, to preserve his name from oblivion. The most brilliant style cannot conceal poverty of thought; but the most valuable instruction will not be relished, unless it be conveyed in a pleasing manner. Quintillian will express my meaning,

Curam verborem, rerum esse volo sollicitudinum.

I would have a writer to be careful about words, and anxious about things.

—

GROVES.

Lucan's description of a sacred grove near Marseilles, in the third

book of the Pharsalia, is well known to the classical scholar. The rites of a barbarous worship, and the impression made on the mind by the gloom of a thick forest, are there displayed with a masterly hand; but, perhaps, Seneca has given the philosophical and true reason. He says, If you enter a dark wood, where high embowering trees exclude the light of the sun, the prodigious growth and lofty majesty of the wood, the solitude of the place, and the deep impenetrable gloom, all conspire to impress an awful stillness, and to fill you with ideas of the invisible power of a superior Being. Seneca, epist. 41.

The younger Pliny (epist. 12) says more concisely, We adore the gloom of the woods, and the silence that reigns around us. *Lucos, atque in iis silentia ipsa adoramus.* The same effect in a Gothic church, is finely described by Congreve:

No, all is hush'd, and still as death;.... 'tis dreadful!
How reverend is the face of this tall pile,
Whose ancient pillars rear their marble heads,
To bear aloft its arch'd and ponderous roof,
By its own weight made stedfast and immovable,
Looking tranquillity! it strikes an awe
And terror to my aching sight.

—

TRIBUTE OF LOYALTY AND GRATITUDE.

Gouverner ses etats avec force & sagesse;
Envers tous les sujets être bons sans foiblesse;
Offier à l'universe l'exemple des vertus;
Ressembler aux Alfreas, égaler les Titus;
Garder auprés de soi le conseiller fidele;
Ecarter le flatteur, soumettre le rebelle.

Terrasser des tyrans, & relever des rois;
Rendre aux fils de Bourbons les soins d'un tendre pare;
Ouvrir aux apprimés un asyle prospére;
Intimeder l'impie armé contre les loix;
Sauver l'Europe en feu, c'est être GEORGE TROIS.

Par le Cher de Lachassaigne, Emigré Francois.

COWPER.

It will not be pretended by the friends of Cowper, that he has any thing of excellence in the harmony of his verse. With a very few exceptions, his stream of versification appears to roll over a bed of flints, and if the bottom be visible, if his sense be intelligible, it is only because it is shallow.

"As alphabets in ivory employ,
Hour after hour, the yet unletter'd boy,
Sorting and puzzling with a *deal of glee*
Those seeds of science call'd *his* A,B,C.
So language in the mouths of the *adult:*
Witness its insignificant result."

Has any poet, since the days of Tate, sung in strains like these?..... They will scarcely bear a comparison, though it will be confessed, they have some resemblance to the following lines of one of the heroes of the Dunciad.

"Let greater scholars jeer and laugh at me,
I ne'er learn'd *nothing* but my A, B, C;
I tried my book from *possum* to *posset*,
But there being gravell'd, could not farther get."

Would the vilest rhymster of the present day conclude a verse with terms so colloquial, we might even add, so much in the style of the lowest vulgarity, as the expression, "Puzzling with a deal of glee?" What is the author's meaning by the words *deal of glee?* Let us open his poems at random, and every page will present us with equal harmony and equal elegance.

"Give one the *fidgets*, and *quite* make me mad."

Is this line more tolerable than the one we have already censured? In what poems but those of Cowper has the word *fidgets* found such frequent admittance?

"'Tis like a parcel sent you by the stage,
Some handsome present ——"

Could the porter, who should carry the poet a Cheshire cheese from

the coach-office of his neighbouring town, express himself in terms more prosaic, than that he had brought him "a parcel sent him by the stage, a handsome present?" We are next to learn what the "handsome present" is:

> "Its strings untied, your disappointment *groans*,
> To find it *stuff'd with brick-bats*"...and with stones.

The term "groans" is inelegant, as being too strong for the subject. But as poets have more sensibility than common mortals, we must allow them to *groan*, where others would only *laugh*. "Stuff'd with brick-bats." From what other poet than Cowper can this word brick-bats be produced? The remainder of the line is merely inserted to supply a defect of memory.

There are words which exclusively belong to poetry, and others, which from their heaviness, their technicality, their peculiar structure, and their general use, are solely appropriated to prose. Cowper, however, appears to have no idea of this exclusion; his muse has nothing of the usual squeamishness of her sex and nature: with a wanton, perhaps an amiable, playfulness, she seizes without selection whatever comes in her way.....a brick-bat, a parcel by the stage, a handsome present, or even *her* A, B, C. Like others of her sex, she often "gets the fidgets," and sometimes even runs "quite mad."

From these remarks the Task is an honourable exception.

—

Dr. Middleton has justly remarked of biographers, that "they work up their characters as painters do their portraits; taking the praise of their art to consist, not in copying, but in adorning nature, not in drawing a just resemblance, but in giving a fine picture, or exalting the man into the hero.

CENTO.

For the Literary Magazine.

A NEWTON-MAD MAN.

THE following instance of a species of phrenzy, showing itself in an excessive admiration of Sir Isaac Newton, is very remarkable.

In the year 1796 a bulky volume was published in London, by a Frenchman of the name of De la Blancherie, in which he styles himself the general agent of correspondence for literature, arts, and sciences; and informs the world, that, when he had acted in that capacity for above ten years, he was induced, by the ill-treatment which he sustained from the court of Versailles, to seek an asylum in England, in the year which preceded the French revolution. His functions being thus suspended, he was filled with chagrin and displeasure; but the idea of a commemoration of Newton at length suggested itself, and encouraged him to resume his agency, which, he thought, would derive the strongest sanction, in the eyes of the English, from the establishment of such a scheme of philosophic celebration. His proposal, however, did not meet with approbation; and he declares that he sustained a series of outrages and persecutions from a nation to whose *obedience* he almost thought himself entitled for having framed such a project. But we may well suppose, that these *outrages*, were only th effusions of ridicule, the sneers of contempt, and the mortifications of refusal.

This eccentric Frenchman proposes that a congress should be convoked, composed of the most respectable persons in the kingdom, in point of rank, merit, and abilities; that this meeting should take place in the hall of the Royal Society, sir Joseph Banks acting as president; that the *agent-general*, dressed in an academic habit, should make a formal exposition of his plan for a permanent celebration of the memory of Newton; that columns, or obelisks, should be erected in the me-

tropolis, and other parts of the realm, in honour of that philosopher; that the parliament should order his works to be re-published in a splendid style; and that the king should repair, in solemn procession, to the *printing-house*, and do the same homage to the typographic art, thus nobly employed, that the emperor of China pays to agriculture. Proceeding in his visionary career, this self-constituted agent desires that the house which sir Isaac occupied (and which, to the great indignation of M. De la Blancherie, was then an *eating-house*) may be repaired at the public expence, and assigned *with a suitable stipend* for his own residence; that Mr. Pitt will make a motion in the house of commons for printing and distributing this *proclamation* in the English language; and that every Englishman, Scot, and Hibernian, will contribute two guineas, the subscriptions being destined for the expences of the scheme, and, in case of surplus, for the promotion of patriotic and charitable purposes. He stated that he had already obtained contributions to the amount of *sixty-nine pounds fourteen shillings*.

Speaking of his future appearance at court in the public character which he has assumed, he intimates that he is to be introduced to his majesty by the president of the Royal Society, attended by two of the students of Westminster-school, and two others from Christ's hospital. If, on this occasion, he shall go unpowdered, such neglect (he says) will not arise from any unwillingness to pay for a powder-licence, but from the consideration of his being in *mourning* for *all the French*.

If the projector were serious in this project, it is surely a memorable instance of scientific enthusiasm. Some readers, however, may suspect that there was more of cunning than of folly in his scheme.

For the Literary Magazine.

CRETINS, OR SWISS IDIOTS.

THE *cretins*, idiots who exhibit the human form in a most deplorable state of imbecility, happily do not propagate themselves. One is frequently born in a family of half a dozen children, the rest of whom have generally full health and faculties.

The *cretins* are treated with a superstitious regard; and, in some families, a child of this description is valued more than the other children, under the idea that it is a medium of tutelary protection. This kind of superstition is known to prevail in other parts of the world, and procures respect to idiotism in some countries, where a despotic and savage policy sports freely with the useful life of man!

The industry of philosophers has not yet been able to discover any local cause to which the idiocy peculiar to the *cretins* can be plausibly assigned.

POETRY....ORIGINAL.

For the Literary Magazine.

EXTRACT FROM AN ORIGINAL POEM IN MS.

NIGHT-SONG OF AZORA.

ONE night Valerian rambled o'er the plains,
And, guided by the pale torch of the moon,
Thoughtful indulg'd the golden dreams of love.
Clear was the sky, no night-cloud cross'd the stars,
The spicy zephyr pour'd his murmuring song,
And on the rocks the heaving billows died.
Enchanted with this scene of night, and wrapt
In melancholy guise, he rambled on,
And bent his museful steps to a wild hill,
Whose top was shaded by a knot of trees,
Whose foot was bath'd by a romantic stream,
Which pour'd its mellow cadence on the ear,
And in the tangled thickets lost its way.
Before he reach'd the hill, his ear was struck
By the sweet clamours of Azora's harp,
And by this ditty warbled to the winds.

Clothe me, still night, within thy mantle grey,
Nor mark the blush that crimsons o'er my cheek;
Bear not my accents, rustling wind, away,
O let no mortal hear me while I speak.

To thee, soft moonlight, I address my tale,
Ye stars of heaven, to you I lift mine eyes,
With tears I bathe the pinions of the gale,
And load these shadows with my heavy sighs.

Come, harp, thy strings of harmony awake,
Come lull thy mistress with one soothing strain,
This magic sorrow of her bosom break,
Loud let thy transports drown the voice of pain.

Azora loves—her bosom feels a flame,
A passion pure, most sacred and most true;
Why should I falsely blush to tell his name?
Brave youth of Rome! my bosom beats for you.

Thy lofty soul, thy martial form of grace,
Thy heart all noble, free from treacherous art,
Thy winning manners, and thy pensive face,
Have won Azora's unassuming heart.

O had I still this heart to give again,
Brave youth of Rome, I'd give it to thee still;
O could I banish from this heart its pain,
Its dissolution would oppose my will.

But low and humble is Azora's lot,
Born in obscurity, a heathen maid,
My days have flown in yonder little cot,
My rambling foot has never left this shade.

But thou, dear youth, didst come to cheer this clime,
To pour instruction on a darkened mind,
To teach this soul to pass the bounds of time,
To soar to heaven, and leave the world behind.

O, were I mistress of the proud world's throne,
And thou a suppliant on thy bended knee,
Thee, dear Valerian, would I love alone,
No passion would I cherish but for thee.

Say then, dear stranger, can thy heart receive
A heart in which thy virtues ever dwell?
These shades, these streamlets, canst thou ever leave,
And bid Azora and her cot farewell?

O, if thou canst, dear wand'ring youth, adieu,
I'll write thy image and thy memory here,
And at still evening, while I think of you,
I'll seek thy safety with a prayerful tear.

Cease now, my harp, fall silence on thy strings,
Dews of the night descend upon my breast,
Breeze, fan my loose locks with thy unfelt wings,
And rock me, angels, in the arms of rest.

Azora ceas'd; and on the passing winds,
The murmur of her music died away;
Wrapt in big transports, stood the list'ning youth;
Dreams from elysium for a moment bound
In fetters magical, his limbs and tongue.
At length he broke his joy's enchanting spell,
And with a voice of full and mellow tones,
Thus answer'd to the night-song of the maid———

I. O.

For the Literary Magazine.

A RURAL WALK.

The scenery drawn from nature.

THE summer sun was riding high,
The woods in deepest verdure drest,
From care and clouds of dust to fly,
Across yon bubbling brook I past;

And up the hill, with cedars spread,
Where vines through spice-wood thickets roam,
I took the woodland path, that led
To Bartram's hospitable dome.

Thick tow'ring oaks around me rose,
Tough hiccories tall, and walnuts wide,
Hard dog-wood, chinkopin, and sloes
Were cluster'd round on every side.

Ten thousand busy hums were heard,
From leafy bough, and herb, and flower;
The squirrel chipp'd, the tree-frog whirr'd,
The dove bemoan'd in shadiest bow'r.

The thrush pour'd out his varying song,
The robin's artless notes unite,
And loud o'er all the tuneful throng
Was heard, in mellow tone, "Bob White*."

My swelling heart with joy o'erflow'd,
To hear those happy millions raise
To Nature's universal God
Such voluntary songs of praise.

Whate'er mistaken Zeal may teach,
Or gloomy Melancholy spy,
Or vision-seeing prophets preach,
Or Superstition's fears supply,

Where'er I view this vast design,
On earth, air, ocean, field, or flood,
All, all proclaim the truth divine,
That God is bountiful and good.

Thus musing on, I past the rill,
That steals down moss-grown rocks so slow,
And wander'd up the woodland hill,
Thick-spreading chesnut boughs below.

In yellow coat of mail encas'd,
With head erect, and watchful eye,
The tortoise, at his mushroom feast,
Shrunk tim'rous as I loiter'd by.

Along the dark sequester'd path,
Where cedars form an arching shade,
I mark'd the cat-bird's squalling wrath,
The jay in shining blue array'd.

And now, emerging on the day,
New prospects caught my ravish'd eye,
Below—a thousand colours gay,
Above—a blue o'er-arching sky.

Rich waving fields of yellow grain,
Green pastures, shelter'd cots and farms,
Gay, glittering domes bestrew'd the plain,
A noble group of rural charms.

* The quail, or partridge, of Pennsylvania.

A wide-extended waste of wood
Beyond in distant prospect lay,
Where Delaware's majestic flood
Shone like the radiant orb of day.

Down to the left was seen afar
The whiten'd spire of sacred name*,
And ars'nal, where the god of war
Has hung his spears of bloody fame.

The city's painted skirts were seen,
Through clouds of smoke ascending high,
While on the Schuylkill's glassy scene
Canoes and sloops were heard to ply.

There upward where it gently bends,
And Say's red fortress † tow'rs in view,
The floating bridge its length extends,
A living scene for ever new.

There market maids, in lively rows,
With wallets white were riding home,
And thundering gigs, with powder'd beaux,
Through Gray's green festive shades to roam.

There Bacchus fills his flowing cup,
There Venus' lovely train are seen,
There lovers sigh, and gluttons sup,
By shrubb'ry walk, in arbours green.

But dearer pleasures warm my heart,
And fairer scenes salute my eye,
As thro' these cherry rows I dart
Where Bartram's fairy landscapes lie.

Sweet flows the Schuylkill's winding tide,
By Bartram's green emblossom'd bow'rs,
Where Nature sports, in all her pride
Of choicest plants, and fruits, and flow'rs.

These sheltering pines that shade the path,
That tow'ring cypress moving slow,
Survey a thousand sweets beneath,
And smile upon the groves below.

* Christ Church steeple.

† The romantic country seat of Dr. Benjamin Say, overhanging Gray's Ferry.

O happy he who slowly strays,
On summer's eve, these shades among,
While Phœbus sheds his yellow rays,
And thrushes pipe their evening song.

From pathless woods, from Indian plains,
From shores where exil'd Britons rove*,
Arabia's rich luxuriant scene,
And Otaheite's ambrosial grove,

Unnumber'd plants and shrubb'ry sweet,
Adorning still the circling year,
Whose names the muse can ne'er repeat,
Display their mingling blossoms here.

Here broad catalpas rear their head,
And pour their purple blooms profuse,
Here rich magnolias whitening spread,
And drop with balm-distilling dews.

The *crown imperial* here behold,
Its orange circlet topp'd with green,
Not gain'd by slaughter or by gold,
Nor drop of blood, nor thorn within.

The downy peach, and clustering vine,
And yellow pears, a bending load,
In mingling groups around entwine
And strew with fruit the pebbly road.

Here tulips rose in dazzling glow,
Whose tints arrest the ravish'd eye,
Here laurels bloom, and roses blow,
And pinks in rich profusion lie.

The genius of this charming scene,
From early dawn till close of day,
Still busy here and there is seen,
To plant, remove, or prune away.

To science, peace, and virtue dear,
And dear to all their noble friends,
Tho' hid in low retirement here,
His generous heart for all expands.

No little herb, or bush, or flower,
That spreads its foliage to the day,
From snow-drops born in wintry hour,
Through Flora's whole creation gay,

But well to him they all are known,
Their names, their character, and race,
Their virtues when each bloom is gone,
Their fav'rite home, their native place.

* New Holland.

For them thro' Georgia's sultry clime,
And Florida's sequester'd shore,
Their streams, dark woods, and cliffs sublime,
His dangerous way he did explore.*

And here their blooming tribes he tends,
And tho' revolving winters reign,
Still spring returns him back his friends,
His shades and blossom'd bowers again.

One flower, one sweet and faithful flower,
Worth all the blossom'd wilds can give,
Forsakes him not tho' seasons lour,
Tho' winter's roaring tempests rave;

But still with gentlest look and air,
Befriends his now declining years,
By every kind officious care,
That virtue's lovely self endears.

When science calls, or books invite,
Her eyes the waste of age supply,
Detail their pages with delight,
Her dearest uncle list'ning by.

When sorrows press, for who are free?
Her generous heart the load sustains,
In sickness none so kind as she,
To soothe and to assuage his pains.

Thus twines the honeysuckle sweet,
Around some trunk decay'd and bare,
Thus angels on the pious wait,
To banish each distressing care.

O, happy he who slowly strays,
On summer's eve, these shades among,
While Phœbus sheds his yellow rays,
And thrushes pipe their evening song.

But happier he, supremely blest!
Beyond what proudest peers have known,
Who finds a friend in Anna's breast,
And calls that lovely plant his own.

The angry storms of awful fate
Around my little bark may roar,
May drive me from this dear retreat,
A wanderer on a distant shore;

But while remembrance' power remains,
There rosy bowers shall bliss my view,
Sweet shades of peace! on foreign plains,
I'll sigh and shed a tear for you.

A. W——N.

Gray's Ferry, August 10, 1804.

* See Bartram's Travels, where the imagination is entertained with the most luxuriant description of these scenes, while the heart is charmed with the benevolent sentiments of the writer.

SELECTED.

MONODY.

NEAR where yon streamlet slowly finds
With pebbly noise its silver way,
And where his horn the beetle winds,
To swell the dirge of closing day,

While many a flower of earliest spring,
Round the light greensward bending creeps,
And many an insect's glossy wing
Slow circles o'er the humming steeps:

There rests the hamlet's native pride,
The fairest maid that deck'd its green,
In soul to heaven alone allied,
In form a grace, a love in mein.

Oh! she was gentle as the air,
Which plays on summer's tranquil breast:
A heart, so kind to every care,
Warms but the tender turtle's nest.

Her voice was sweeter than the lyre,
That steals each echo from the breeze,
Her eye the blue with chastened fire,
That wins us, ere it seems to please.

Oft, when the wild gust shook the leaf,
Her voice in mellow tones would pour,
So soft, so sad, its touching grief!
So soft, so sad, it swells no more!

Nor more, as wont, at vernal wake
With merry steps they dance the hays,
But sighs from every bosom break
For her, who blest their youthful days.

So, while at eve the hoary swain
Recounts the tale to infant ears,
They seek the grave of lovely Jane,
And turn their ready sports to tears.

Oft too the village nymphs repair
In dumb distress to kneel and weep,

To show the rue and primrose there,
Or hymn her gentle sprite to sleep.

Pause then....on yonder hallowed spot,
And give her worth a parting sigh;
So may thy grave ne'er be forgot,
When the lorn pilgrim passes by.

CAROLINE.

By Thomas Campbell.

I'LL bid the hyacinth to blow,
Ill teach my grotto green to be;
And sing my true-love all below
The holly bow'r and myrtle tree.

There all his wild-wood scents to bring,
The sweet south wind shall wander by,
And with the music of his wing
Delight my rustling canopy.

Come to my close and clust'ring bow'r,
Thou spirit of a milder clime,
Fresh with the dews of fruit and flow'r,
Of mountain-heath and moory thyme.

With all thy rural echoes come,
Sweet comrade of the rosy day,
Wafting the wild bee's gentle hum,
Or cuckow's plaintive roundelay.

Where'er thy morning breath has play'd,
Whatever isles of ocean fann'd,
Come to my blossom-woven shade,
Thou wand'ring wind of fairy land.

For sure from some enchanted isle,
Where heav'n and love their sabbath hold,
Where pure and happy spirits smile
Of beauty's fairest, brightest mould.

From some green Eden of the deep,
Where pleasure's sigh alone is heav'd,
Where tears of rapture lovers weep,
Endear'd, undoubting, undeceiv'd.

From some sweet paradise afar,
Thy music wanders, distant, lost;
Where nature lights her leading star,
And love is never, never cross'd.

Oh gentle gale of Eden bow'rs,
If back thy rosy feet should roam,
To revel with the cloudless hours,
In nature's more propitious home;

Name to thy lov'd elysian groves,
That o'er enchanted spirits twine,
A fairer form than cherub loves,
And let the name be CAROLINE.

SELECTIONS.

CHARACTER OF A WIFE.

From an English Publication.

SOME very wise men have doubted whether....no....I beg their pardon ....very wise men, in our days, are averse to the slow process of doubting....and therefore find it easier to *assert*....that all our vices are the excesses of some virtue; though, I believe, they have not gone so far as to offer the converse of this proposition, and maintain, that all our virtues must be the superfluous part of our vices. Whether they are right in establishing this barter, is not for me to determine: but I cannot help being somewhat inclined to think, that very good sort of people have strange whims and habits, which, though it would neither be polite nor just to call vices, yet must be accounted very troublesome and inconvenient things. Such is the case perhaps, with your outrageously virtuous people, in whose opinion, a smile is a criminal overture, and the touch of a finger, an impulse of Satan....or with your violently sentimental people, who exult in the prospect of a long dreary aisle, terminated by a dungeon, who converse in sobs and shrieks, and whose daily bread is a kind of fermentation, excited by the clanking of chains,

and the reports of pistols. But let me not wander from my intended subject. Let me not plunge into the abyss of romance, when I ought to relate a plain tale, nor wander abroad in search of terrors, when I may remain at home in pursuit only of inconveniences.

My misfortune is to possess the whole and sole property, personal and mental, of a WIFE, who is, without all exception (except what is to follow) one of the best of human beings. That she is so, I should be disposed to allow voluntarily, even if I were not obliged to assent to it, as attested and sworn by every one, who knows her, that is, who occasionally pays us a visit, beholds her good deeds, and profits by them. To contradict people, who must be the best judges, because they think so, and in a matter, too, which must be very gratifying to the feelings of a husband, would be at once very unpolite and very unwise. But writing, as I am now, to you, and in a miscellany which is intended to answer the purposes of a committee of public safety, I may, perhaps, take greater freedoms than domestic good manners will allow: and in my fictitious character, advance some things, which, in *propria persona*, I find it quite as prudent to let pass without animadversion.

Sir, this angel of a woman....that is a very fine epithet from a man who has been married above twenty years....would deserve more praises than you have leisure or patience to read, had she not hit, in early life, upon a *system of happiness*, which she is never likely to complete, which perhaps never was completed, and which, if it could be brought to a termination, would probably make her very unhappy. You are to know, that she resolves all happiness into two passions, hope and fear, and a mind continually vibrating between these, is, in her opinion, a mind of perfect felicity. Now, I know that some people would call this *restlessness*, and an eminent physician, of my acquaintance, has assured me, that it is nothing but the *fidgets*, a disorder peculiar, as he says, to females, especially to those who are called your *mighty good kind* of women: but this, with submission to his medical skill, must, I think, be a mistake; for I have perceived symptoms of the *fidgets* in women, who could not, in any sense of the words, be termed mighty good, or mighty evil. A learned lady assured me, that my wife's disorder was *irritability* of *locomotion*.

Be this as it may, for doctors will differ, my wife pursues her system with unabated assiduity, continually finding out schemes to exercise her mind in hope and fear, to raise expectation, prove ingenuity, gratify curiosity, and, as Bayes says in the Rehearsal, "to elevate and surprise." You may, therefore, suppose, that in order to carry on this plan of happiness, somewhat of a romantic turn is necessary. You are not mistaken. She possesses very much of that turn, but is much better pleased with the romances of real life, than with those of fiction, and would much rather summon a hackney-coachman, than call up hobgoblins in an old castle. And it is very remarkable, that not a day passes without her meeting, by the *meerest accident in the world*, with the strangest persons, the most unlooked-for incidents, or the oddest speeches and expressions, that ever occurred in the history of the world. N. B. I never found a person of an *adventurous* turn of mind, who did not meet with *adventures*; and I don't know, but that in skilful hands, a journey to Hampstead might be made as surprising, as a voyage round the globe. But this by the bye.

You will also readily imagine, that my wife is a woman of a very active turn of mind.....Ah! sir, there it is....She is of so active a disposition, that rest is unknown at our house. We have always something to hope, or something to fear; some scheme to execute, some alteration to make, or something to illustrate

the desiderated doctrine of perpetual motion. But I must descend to particulars.

Soon after our marriage, it was found out by my wife, that the house we lived in was inconvenient, the stair-case was narrow, the wainscoting was impaired by time, and the floors were damaged.....There was much to be done, and much to be undone. Having little of the spirit of contradiction in me, I had no difficulty in admitting, that the hand of the carpenter might relieve us in these respects; and sent for a couple of trusty fellows, to whom I explained our wants, and only hinted, that I could wish the job finished with expedition; which they, as is their custom, promised should certainly be the case. But this was neither my wife's wish nor intention. *Finishing* is no part of her system, and the word *complete*, is, I believe, not in her vocabulary. She had sketched out improvements of a higher kind, and probably dreading the shallowness of my capacity to understand the whole, chose to develope the plan in such fragments as might suit my comprehension. Little, however, as I knew of her intentions, I soon discovered, that her sole pleasure was in *bustle*, and that she had cut out this work, neither for the benefit of the house, nor of the workmen, but purely to divert her mind, and keep her invention in motion. Within a month, our house was nearly quite demolished, a small reserve only having been made for present accommodation, the site of which, to prevent interruption from visitors, was the garret, and the only access to it, by means of ladders; the last of which, it was my business to pull up after me, with the care and circumspection of Robinson Crusoe, when he dreaded a visit from the savages.

To interpose now, I saw was in vain, for I did not wish to demolish all my comforts together, and therefore let the lady directress order every thing in her own taste, hoping, that the whole would soon be completed, and that there could not be a pretence for farther alterations, for some years at least. But in this we were mutually disappointed. I was disappointed, because my wife was not satisfied; and she was disappointed, because every thing having been done according to her own plan, and nothing done as she liked, she had no person to blame but herself....and that is a trouble, which my wife never takes, even when most at leisure from other avocations.

We had not been seated in our improved mansion many months, when my wife discovered, that although no fault could reasonably be found with the house itself (except as aforesaid, that she disliked her own improvements) there was a misfortune attending it, which baffled even *her* contriving genius..... This was simply its being placed just where it was, and not about a mile off, in a genteeler part of the town. Of this I had repeated hints, and knowing the intimate connexion between a hint and a requisition, I assented with a good grace; in consequence of which, our present house was taken. Its principal recommendation, I thought, had been its situation, but that was not the only one. It had, besides, every possible negative requisite for a lady of my wife's diposition. It had not been tenanted for years, and therefore wanted many repairs. *We* had never lived in it at all, and therefore it wanted as many improvements as her utmost stretch of fancy could reach, which, to her, presented a glorious prospect. Carpenters, bricklayers, painters, glaziers, and cabinet-makers, went to work; and as these gentlemen are not very expeditious, even though they assist each other wonderfully, my wife was the happiest creature in the universe, for near five months....and I can't say but that I enjoyed a comparative state of happiness during this time, and that for two reasons: first, I was not upon the spot, nor within hearing; and, secondly, madam insisted, that I should not enter the

doors of it until all was finished, that I might be surprised and astounded at the skill and taste displayed by her.

Well, behold us now seated here, in a capital mansion, almost new, and apparently excepted from the repairing act for many years. What was there to interrupt our quiet?.... Even that which has ever produced the same effect....my wife's aversion to a life of ease. Faults appeared to her critical eye, which escaped my penetration. The fly on the pillar could not be more fastidious; hence we relapsed gradually into the repairing system, and devoted at least six weeks every year to this animating and lively business; when a new circumstance occurred. One day, as my wife was reading the newspaper, she observed that our house was advertised to be sold, and a hint, which to any body else, would have been as dark as the explanations of a statesman, produced a firm conviction in my mind, that she would not be satisfied without making it our freehold. I assented, as usual, but from another motive than she suspected; for, while she was expatiating on the advantage of having "a house of one's own, no rent to pay, the low price of estates," and other prevailing inducements, I hugged myself in the idea, that when the house became our own, it would put an end to all future schemes of removal. This being agreed upon, "she would make the purchase herself in person;" and why? because she has often declared that the happiest moments of her life are those during which her heart flutters in unison with the vibrations of an auctioneer's hammer, and that she would rather be out of pocket, at a sale, than not out of breath when the last stroke falls.

We were now, I thought, beyond the reach of removal, and I thought right; but that the mind should not stagnate in inactivity, many substantial alterations have been since carried into execution, because, my wife says, we may do what we will with the house, "now it is our own." For all the above considerations, she has universally obtained the character of a WOMAN of TASTE, although some have given her the more familiar name of a NOTABLE WOMAN.

But, even repairs and alterations must be sometimes interrupted..... There must be times when no partition requires to be pulled down, and no shelves want to be put up; when hinges and locks do their duty in silence, and scouring may supply the place of paint; when every chair is in its place, and every tub stands on its own bottom. To fill up these interstices, and keep the mind in exercise, when no affairs of her own demand her attention, my wife has acquired a very hapy knack at managing the affairs of other people. Her acquaintance being pretty extensive, and her opinion looked up to, as the opinion of a woman living in a great house ought to be, she is never without opportunities of making other people's cares her own. If there is a purchase to be made, a child to be born, a disease to be cured, a patient to be sent to the dispensary, an election to be gained, a dress to be made up, a writer to be sent to India, or a servant's place to be filled, she is in perpetual motion, and never quits her purpose until her endeavours end in final success or disappointment.....By the bye, it is a very remarkable circumstance, and which I cannot otherwise account for, than by saying that it is part of her system, that whether she loses or wins, she seems equally pleased. From her eagerness in these various pursuits, she has been mistaken by strangers, sometimes for a mantuamaker, a puffer at sales, a physician in petticoats, the lady of a director, the matron of an hospital, and sometimes for a nurse, a midwife, and the keeper of a register-office. Such is the versatility of her talents, that nothing is intolerable which serves to make her anxious, and nothing seems troublesome that is attended with a great deal of plague. On ac-

count of all these good deeds, she has obtained the reputation of a most BENEVOLENT WOMAM.

One consequence of intermeddling in the affairs of other people, would to many be an object of terror; I mean the chance of getting into scrapes; but with my lady, that seems to be a recommendation. It is not unfrequently that she is under the necessity of applying to my lawyer to extricate her out of what other people would call difficulties, but which she deems the pleasing consequence of knowing more about natural justice than artificial quibbles. She is, indeed, very fond of law: you may naturally suppose that its delays and uncertainty are highly in favour of her system. She has had a few trials about some property she brought me at our union, but they were short, and therefore not very satisfactory. Were she not extremely fertile in devising exercises for her hopes and fears, and consequently, not standing in need of my assistance, or if I had any great point to gain with her, I don't know but I might be prevailed upon to gratify her with a chancery suit, and secure her happiness on a lasting foundation.

To all the above expedients may be added the purchase of lottery tickets, and of bargains, the arrangement of disputes in families, &c. But life is longer than we commonly imagine. We canot always be concerning ourselves in the affairs even of other people. There are times when invention must be employed to devise schemes of action, and to open sources of hope and fear, independent of foreign aid And here likewise, my wife is entitled to the praise of great fertility. After a day passed in action, bustle, expectation, and disappointment, the night brings with it domestic comfort of another kind. The alarm of fire and of thieves forms a perpetual source of watchfulness and contrivance; and as, for reasons already assigned, she is a great reader of of newspapers, these are subjects which are never allowed to slip out of her memory. Joined to these are the pleasing possibilities of being robbed by our servants, of our house in the country being burnt, of the banker failing, and of our steward proving a rogue. And as some part of my property lies in the West Indies, we occasionally speculate, with a degree of comfort, on an earthquake for my lands, or the yellow fever for my tenants. As to servants, a perpetual change of them is one of my wife's chief pleasures. If we have good servants, they are no better for us; and if they are bad, we are not worse for them. This procures madam the reputation of GREAT DISCERNMENT.

Such are some of the ingredients in my wife's practical system of happiness. It is remarkable, however, that I tolerate it, because I am of a quite different way of thinking, and really allow of bustle and confusion, merely because I am a lover of peace. If this appear inconsistent, it can appear so only to an inveterate old batchelor. To be sure, I could wish the time were come when we could sit down quietly, and consider all around us as perfect in its kind, and, without stirring from our chairs, make allowance for imperfections, which impatience and motion cannot remove. And, of late, I suspect my wife has been studying the new doctrine of *perfectibility*, which, to suit herself, she transfers from mind to matter. Were I to examine her closely on the subject, I have little doubt that she looks forward with earnest hope to that happy day, when the furniture of a house shall arrive at perfection, when wainscot shall be impregnable to dust, when plate shall shine in perpetual brightness, and the voice of scourers shall be heard no more....when property shall no longer change its master, the conditions of sale become a dead letter, and the eloquence of Cristie solicit the last bid!

HUMPHREY PLACID.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF CERTAIN STONES AND OTHER SUBSTANCES SAID TO HAVE FALLEN FROM THE CLOUDS, AND OF THE SEVERAL THEORIES ADOPTED BY PHILOSOPHERS TO ACCOUNT FOR THE PHENOMENA.

Concluded from page 318.

THE constituent parts of the stone from YORKSHIRE are exactly the same as those of the stones from Benares, but it differs from them (1) In having a finer grain. (2) The particles are less globular, of an irregular shape, and in general of a smaller size. (3) The proportion of martial pyrites is less; that of the iron in a metallic state is much greater. The specific gravity is 3,508.

The grain of the stone from SIENNA was coarse, similar to that from Benares; in it might be perceived the same grey globular bodies, the same kind of martial pyrites, and the same particles of iron in the metallic state. The proportion of these last was much less than in the stone from Yorkshire, but rather greater than in the stones from Benares. The black crust which covered the stone was rather thinner than that of the stones already described, and seemed to have undergone a kind of contraction, which had produced in it a number of fissures or furrows, tracing upon the surface the appearance of compartments, similar, in some measure, to what is observed in the stones called septaria. The specific gravity of this stone was 3,418.

The internal structure of the stone from BOHEMIA is very similar to that from Yorkshire. Its grain is finer than that of the stones from Benares, but in other respects it is very similar to them. From the others it differs in the following particulars. (1.) The particles of pyrites cannot be seen without a lens. (2.) It contains a much larger quantity of iron in the metallic state, equal to a fourth of the whole. (3.) Many of the particles of iron have undergone an oxidation at their surface, which, by adding to the bulk, and the force of action, of the part we have described as serving by way of cement to the other constituents parts of the stones, has occasioned a greater degree of adhesion between these parts, and has rendered the substance of the stone more compact.

The great quantity of iron in the metallic state which this stone contains, added to its greater compactness, makes it capable of receiving a slight degree of polish; whereas it is impossible to give any polish to the others. When polished, the iron becomes very evident, in the polished part, appearing in the form of small specks, almost close to each other, which have the colour and lustre peculiar to that metal. The specific gravity of the stone is 4,281.

It is easy to perceive, from the foregoing description, that these stones, although they have not the smallest similarity with any of the mineral substances already known, have a very peculiar and striking analogy with each other. This circumstance renders them worthy of the attention of philosophers; and naturally excites a desire of knowing to what causes they owe their existence.

According to Mr. Howard's analysis, which appears to have been conducted with considerable care, all these stones consist of silica, magnesia, oxide of iron, and oxide of nickel, combined in nearly similar proportions. The result of this examination differs from the analysis made by the French academicians, of the stone presented to them by the abbe Bachelay, as well as from that made by professor Barthold of the stones of Ensisheim. It is at variance with that of the academicians, inasmuch as they found neither magnesia nor nickel. It differs from that of Mr. Barthold, as he did not find nickel, but discovered some lime, with 17 *per cent.* of alumina. But notwithstanding these variations, the mineralogical

description of the French academicians, of M. Barthold, and of the count de Bournon, all exhibit a striking conformity of character common to each of these stones; and it is the decided opinion of Mr. Howard, that the similarity of the component parts, especially of the malleable alloy, together with the near approach of the constituent proportions of the earths contained in each of the four stones to which we have referred, will establish strong evidence in favour of the assertion that they have fallen on our globe. They have been found at places very remote from each other, and at periods also sufficiently distant. The mineralogists who have examined them, agree that they have no resemblance to mineral substances, properly so called; nor have they been described by mineralogical authors. The public may, from our former paper, determine for themselves what degree of credit is to be paid to the accounts of fallen stones, and judge of the similarity of circumstances attendant on such phenomena. Attempts to reconcile occurrences of this nature with known principles of philosophy are abundant, but they leave us a choice of difficulties equally perplexing. It is, however, remarkable, that Dr. Chladni, in his observations on *Fire-balls and hard bodies fallen from the Atmosphere*, has connected the descent of fallen stones with meteors: and the descent of the stones near Benares was accompanied with a meteor. No luminous appearance was, however, perceived during the day on which the stone fell in Yorkshire; but the stones from Sienna fell amidst what was imagined lightning, but what might in reality have been a meteor. The stones that fell at Agen were also accompanied with a meteor; and we are told that the stone which was adored as the mother of the Gods by the ancients, fell at the feet of the poet Pindar, enveloped in a ball of fire.

Should it hereafter be discovered that fallen stones are actually the bodies of meteors, it would not appear so problematical, that such masses as these stones are sometimes represented, do not penetrate further into the earth; for meteors move more in a horizontal than in a perpendicular direction: and we are as absolutely unacquainted with the force which impels the meteor, as with the origin of the fallen stone.

In the year 1801, a very brilliant meteor was observed in the county of Suffolk, part of which was said to fall near the town of Bury, and to consume a cottage; but, upon accurate enquiry, the time of the combustion of the house did not correspond with the moment of the meteor's transition.

A phenomenon, much more worthy of attention, has been described as seen in America on the night of the fifth of April, 1800. Its apparent size was that of a large house seventy feet long; and its elevation about 200 yards above the surface of the earth. It moved with prodigious velocity, and the light produced effects little short of those of the sun-beams; and a considerable degree of heat was felt by those who saw it, without any electric sensation. Immediately after it disappeared in the north-west a violent rushing noise was heard, as if the phenomenon were bearing down the forest before it, and, in a few seconds after, there was a tremendous crash, causing a very sensible earthquake. Search being afterwards made in the place where the burning body fell, every vegetable was found burnt, or greatly scorched, and a considerable portion of the surface of the earth broken up. It does not appear, however, that any pains were taken to search deeper than the surface of the ground.

We have also an account in the Philosophical Transactions for the year 1788, of a solitary mass of what has been called native iron, which was discovered in South America, as has been described by Don Rubin de Celis, who mentions another insulated mass of the same

nature. M. Proust and Mr. Howard have examined some fragments of this mass, which they obtained from the British Museum; and it is their opinion, that it is not wholly iron, but a mixture of that metal with nickel.

From this we are led to notice the native iron, found near Mount Kemirs, in Siberia, and described by Pallas. This, we are told, the Tartars considered as a sacred relic, which had dropped from heaven. The nickel found in the one mass, and the traditionary history of the other, without comparing the globular bodies of the stone from Benares with the globular concavities and the earthy matter of the Siberian iron, tend, in the opinion of Mr. Howard, to the formation of a chain between fallen stones and all kinds of native iron.

The count de Bournon informs us, that all the kinds of iron, called native, contain nickel. The mass in South America is hollow, has concavities, and appears to have been in a soft or welding state, because it has received various impressions..... The Siberian iron has globular concavities, in part filled with a transparent substance, which, the proportional quantity of oxide of iron excepted, has nearly the composition of the globules in the stone of Benares. The iron from Bohemia adheres to earthy matter studded with globular bodies.

From these facts the count submits the following queries:....1. Have not all fallen stones, and what are called native iron, the same origin? 2. Are all, or any of them, the produce or the bodies of meteors? Specimens of the Yorkshire and Benares stones have been deposited in the British Museum.

If the facts to which we have referred be credited, it will not appear surprising that so striking a physical and chemical analogy should induce a belief that all these stones have the same origin; and that, as they form an order of compounds different from any thing ever yet observed among minerals, some philosophers should conclude that they do not belong to the fossils of our globe. Several hypotheses have consequently been invented to explain the formation of these singular productions.

It has long been asserted that they are nothing else but minerals, elevated and projected from the earth by volcanoes. Others have considered them as stones of our globe, struck and fused on the outside by lightning, on the spot where they were found; and lately they have been considered as earthy and metallic substances raised into the air, which, being there collected and agglutinated, have formed these masses, which immediately fell down by their own weight.

The manifest contradictions exhibited by these opinions, either with the principal circumstances, or the fact itself, of the fall of these stones, have given rise to one less improbable, though perhaps more extraordinary. It is that of some geometricians, who consider them as volcanic productions projected from the moon beyond the sphere of its attraction, and to the confines of that of the earth.

If this opinion seems to be contradicted by all the ideas hitherto entertained, it is at any rate seen that it is less susceptible of solid objections than any of the preceding hypotheses. The same may be said of that of Chladni, who, with some other philosophers, considers all the masses which have fallen to the earth as solid bodies detached from some other planet at the time of their formation, and which move about in infinite space till they meet with another, which becoming to them a new centre of gravity, attracts them to its surface.

An analytical examination of these hypotheses, and the little agreement between them, and the circumstances which constantly accompany the fall of stones, have induced M. Gzarn, the author of *Lithologie Atmospherique*, to suppose that these stones are formed of the elements of those earths and

metals which they exhibit by analysis, and which he supposes to be in a gazeous state at a great height in the atmosphere, and the combination of which he ascribes to unknown circumstances that rarely occur. This gentleman has brought together a collection of facts and opinions, published in France during the last century, on thunder stones, thunder, stones fallen from the heavens, &c. and he infers that the phenomenon of the fall of solid bodies on the earth is, according to every appearance, as old as the world; and that the certainty of the fact is now so well proved, that it can be denied only by those who admit nothing as certain. At the conclusion he gives a recapitulation of his whole work, in the two following tables.

TABLE I.....*Of the principal opinions entertained in regard to the solid substances which have fallen from the clouds.*

Philosophers who have considered them as productions thrown on the earth by volcanoes or hurricanes:

Freret, Barthold,
Gassendi, G. A. Deluc,
Muschembroek, Delalande.

As mineral substances fused by lightning on the spots where found:

Lemery, Stahl,
The Academicians, Cronberg,
Agricola, Patrin.

As concretions in the atmosphere:

Descartes, Sir W. Hamilton,
Lesser, Edward King,
Goyons-d'Arzas, Eusebius Salverte.

As masses foreign to our planet:

Chladni, Poisson,
Biot, The Bibliothéque Britanique.

Table II. Of the different periods of the fall of these substances on the earth, the places where they fell, and the authority on which the facts stand.

Substances.	Places where they fell.	Period of their fall.	Testimonies.
Shower of stones	At Rome	Under Tullus Hostilius	Livy
Shower of stones	At Rome	Consuls C. Martius and M. Torquatus	J. Obsequens
Shower of iron	In Lucania	Year before the defeat of Crassus	Pliny
Shower of mercury	In Italy		Dion
A very large stone	Near the river Negos, Thrace	Second year of the 78th Olympiad	Pliny
Three large stones	In Thrace	Year before J. C. 452	Ch. of count Marcelin
Shower of fire	At Quesnoy	Jan. 4th, 1717	Geoffroy le Cadet
Stone of 72lbs.	Near Larissa, Macedonia	Jan. 1706	Paul Lucas
About 1200 stones—one of 120lbs. / Another of 60lbs.	Near Padua, in Italy	In 1510	Cardan Varcit
A stone of 59lbs.	On Mount Vaiser, Provence	Nov. 27, 1627	Gassendi
Shower of sand, for 15 hours	In the Atlantic	April 6th, 1719	Pére la Fuillée
Shower of sulphur	Sodom and Gomorrah		Moses
Sulphureous rain	In the Duchy of Mansfield	In 1658	Spangenberg
The same	Copenhagen	In 1646	Olaus Wurmius
Shower of sulphur	Brunswick	Oct. 1721	Siegesberg
Ditto of a viscid unknown matter	Ireland	In 1695	Muschembroek
Two large stones weighing 20lbs.	Liponas, in Bresse	Sept. 1753	Delalande
A stony mass	Niort, in Normandy	In 1750	Delalande
A stone of 7½lbs.	At Luce, in Le Maine	Sept. 13, 1768	Bachelay
A stone	At Aire, in Artois	In 1768	Gurson de Boyaval
A stone	In Le Cotentin	In 1768	Morand
Extensive shower of stones	Environs of Agen	July 24th, 1790	St. Amand, Baudin, &c.
About twelve stones	Sienna, Tuscany	July, 1794	Earl of Bristol
A large stone of 56lbs.	Wold-Cottage, Yorkshire	Dec 13th, 1795	Captain Topham
A stone of about 20lbs.	Salé, department of the Rhone	March 17th, 1798	Lelievre and De Drée
A stone of 10lbs.	In Portugal	Feb. 19th, 1796	Southey
Shower of stones	Benares, East Indies	Dec. 10th, 1798	J. Lloyd Williams, esq.
Shower of stones	At Plann, near Tabor, Bohemia	July 3d, 1753	B. de Born
Mass of iron, 70 cubic feet	America	April 5th, 1800	Philosophical Magazine
Mass of ditto, 14 quintals	Abakank, Siberia	Very old	Pallas, Chladni, &c.
Shower of stones	Barboutan, near Roquefort	July, 1789	Darcet, jun. Lomet, &c.
Large stone, 260lbs.	Ensisheim, Upper Rhine	Nov. 7th, 1492	Butnschoen
Two stones, 200 and 300lbs.	Near Verona	In 1762	Acad. de Bourd.
A stone of 20lbs.	Sales, near Ville-Franche	March 12th, 1798	De Drée
Several ditto, from 10 to 17lbs.	Near L'Aigle, Normandy	Aug. 26th, 1803	

CRITICISM ON KLOPSTOCK'S MESSIAH.

Concluded from page 309.

THE thirteenth book is filled with visits of pilgrimage made at the holy cross, and at the holy sepulchre, by angels and prophets. A hymn in dialogue, sung by Isaiah and Daniel, arouses and disappoints expectation. The moment of the resurrection, whether it is ill prepared, whether the profusion of antecedent miracles diminishes its relative magnificence, whether it is described with a too rapid or promiscuous circumstantiality, does not excite so much surprise and joy as in the simple journal of the gospel-writers.

The fourteenth canto displays the astonishment of Magdelena and different disciples, on finding the sepulchre empty; and details the revelation of the resurrection. Probably the often quoted interview with Cleophas is the best part of this book: it is said to be highly valued by the poet himself: unless for the indication of authorities to which deference is due, I should have read it with entire, but without peculiar, approbation.

Apparitions of the re-risen abound in the fifteenth division: it forms a dull collection of uncohering legendary anecdotes. The spiritual eclogue between Eve and the mother of Christ is peculiarly babyish. In the story of the seven sons martyred by Antiochus Epiphanes, a speech of their mother commands admiration by the surprising turn of its forceful pathos.

The sixteenth book unfolds a new herd of ghosts, those dead since the atonement. Anecdotes....and again anecdotes....neither progression, nor business, nor purpose: souls come, as the poet himself says, now thick-rushing from the clouds, now drizzling.

Antideluvians are delivered from purgatory in the seventeenth; which also includes conversations of the friends of Jesus in the garden of Lazarus.

In the eighteenth and nineteenth cantos, the flagging wings of the poet are again exerted. Adam beholds in vision the last judgment, a process improperly begun before..... There is some boldness of fancy in the decoration, some vigour of language in the description of these visionary scenes; the pardon of Abbadona is read with eager joy; yet too many individual cases are tried, almost all incoherent and episodical, unconnected with each other, or with the reward and punishment of the persons of the epopœa. In Milton's vision of Adam the representations are selected with more discretion, although tricked out with less pageantry. To this prophetic intervention succeed the apparitions of Christ in Gallilee; and to them the ascension.

Hosannas, sung by successive festoons of angels at every soar of the interminable ascension, occupy the whole twentieth and concluding book. Even manna tires at last, and of these hallelujahs there are so many, that one would suppose the author had contracted for editing the whole psalter of the cherubs..... The hymns are composed in various lyric metres: they are too carefully selected from the Jewish prophets, as they contain accounts of the plagues of Egypt, and the taking of Babylon, which have not even a mystical connection with the present topic. They are too seldom intersected by descriptive passages: one wishes for a few of the picturesque, aerial, playful angelic groupes of Ceva.

Strepit æthere aperto
Læta phalanx, pennisque supervolat, arvaque inumbrat:
Pars florum manibus plenis effundere nimbos
——— alba super velamina; pars pedes ire;
Ille equitat croceas nubes, hic cruribus exit
E mediis nebulis, hic summis prominet alis;
Mille alii variis nectuntur in aere nodis.

JESUS PUER, LIB. II.

At length Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father.

From the twenty thousand lines of which the Messiah consists, a prudent author would have expunged about one half, for feebleness, tautology, or irrelevance: so that the mass of excellent composition, which is chiefly to be sought between the second and eighth cantos, does not exceed that of the Paradise Lost, supposing it curtailed, in like manner, of what the critics censure for extravagance, ignobleness, or pedantry; such as Satan's journey, the angelic war, Michael's narrative, and other thinly scattered passages, which may collectively amount to one sixth of the whole. Poetry, like ore, is estimated not by the coarseness, but by the proportion of its alloy; and is never valued for its bulk, but for its richness: if Milton threfore contains about one sixth, and Klopstock one half, of dross, the latter is the inferior specimen.

To the characterization of Klopstock other observations belong..... Some German critics have called Milton the Homer, and Klopstock the Virgil, of modern religion. The comparison will not bear a very close inspection. Homer is admittedly the greatest genius who ever undertook epic poetry, but he is not the polished artist: his observation is ubiquitary; his invention is unprecedented and inexhaustible; his style is omnipotent, but it is unambitious, garrulous, and at times slovenly, rising and sinking with his subject. He resembles those perfect human bodies that grow up in the ruder stages of society, which have every exertion at command, combining the strength of Hercules and the swiftness of Hermes, but which, when unmoved by passion, spread in listless indolence. Virgil, with very inferior talent, exerts a greater degree of art; his whole capital of idea is borrowed; he is entirely the poet of precedent, an industrious gleaning translator; his style is level, neat, and elaborate, never precipitous, never low. He resembles his cotemporary Pylades, the dancer, who only showed himself in attitudes worthy of Apollo, who by trained dexterity could imitate with applause the gait of force or agility, but without possessing the native vigour to excel in either. The intellectual powers of Milton exceed those of Virgil; there is more energy, more soul in his diction, in his personages; what he writes stimulates more during perusal; but he is a poet of the same sort. He too composes by means of his reading; he too collects and selects his descriptions and comparisons, his maxims and characters, from the works of his predecessors; his style is more condensed, thoughtful, harsh, and unequal than Virgil's; but it is also the attentive style of a toiling artist, who is pursuing a different idea of perfection. Klopstock belongs to quite another description of composers. Poets draw from nature, from art, and from idea. They may owe their materials chiefly to observation, chiefly to reading, or chiefly to reflection. They may delight in describing the phenomena of their experience; in compiling the treasures of their study; or, in exhibiting those substitutions of the fancy, which the senses sometimes, and sometimes books, suggest. Homer is surely of the first, Milton and Virgil of the second, but Klopstock of the third of these classes*. He is the poet of *reflection* in the stricter sense of the word: he always draws from the picture in his own imagination, even when he derives the hint of it from a preceding writer. His plagiarism is never occupied, like Milton's, in mending the passage which he means to borrow, but the scene, which he means again to copy. In whatever he transfers, therefore, the point of view, the colouring, the locality, the distribution changes; circumstances vary, and personages thicken on his canvas. But he is too apt to loiter over

* Are not Ariosto, Camoens, and Ercilla of the first, Tasso and Wieland of the second, and Macpherson of the third of these classes?

his amendments, until he forgets the motive for undertaking them, and, in completing a picture for a simile, to overshade the point of comparison; so that his ornaments resemble arabesques....the arabesques of Raphael indeed....one cannot guess at the branching point in what the volute is to terminate. This practice of second-hand painting is unwise: such sketches are apt, as artists would say, to want *the solid.* And in fact the scenery of Klopstock is illuminated by a certain gloomy twilight, a misty glory, an intangible rainbowy lustre, which disfavours an impression of reality. The vivid hues of his decorations (in the simile of the pestilence, for instance) on returning to the narrative melt into thin air; spectres cluster about his fact, and dissolve it into phantasm. His mountains seem as it were clouds; his groves, of empyreal palm; his cities, suburbs of some new Jerusalem; his gorgeous palaces, his solemn temples, all appear to partake the fabric of a vision. To *dream* sights is the felicity of poets; it is remarkably that of Klopstock; he oftener looks within and seldomer without for objects than any other son of fancy.

Klopstock frequently deserts the epic for the dramatic form, and, instead of introducing his speeches narratively, prefixes initials merely to the alternations of the dialogue. Indeed those short speeches which abound in the Messiah, could not have been employed at all, if always ushered in with a whole hexameter like Homer's

> Him thus answer'd again the king of men, Agamemnon.

Yet this licence has not conferred vivacity, because the speeches are mostly contemplative, not active; the effusions of by-standers, not the declarations of agents. One learns every body's opinion of what is going on, but that of the concerned. The sentiments of the personages, although often superfluous and unmotived, are however strictly appropriate: they have moral and local aptness; they wear the livery of the person and the country. No flower of Hebrew origin escapes the preserving care of Klopstock; but he never offends by a misplaced paganism of imagery and illustration. Whatever he transplants loses wholly its raciness. Yet this very precaution excludes some sources of variety, which were all wanted in a poem, where the matter is too uniformly lofty, and wearies, by always keeping on the stretch the reader's imagination. With a background more modest, the radiant passages would have acquired a bolder relievo. In the art of wording, Klopstock is no mean proficient. His epithets are chosen judiciously: they are often new, always impressive, not idle or over-frequent, and usually adapted, not merely to the substantive in general, but to the peculiar point of view in which it then attracts notice; so that they are what the Germans call *hitting* epithets, in contradistinction to such as miss their aim.... to use an analogous idiom, they all *tell.* Nor is his command and selection of phrase inferior to that of single words; but he often misapplies his opulence, and prodigally squanders an exquisite passage on the adornment of an insignificant episode. Superfluity is indeed the leading character of Klopstock's style; but it is not a redundance of terms, so much as of accessary and subordinate ideas; a fibrous branchiness of thought, rather than parallel pullulations of phrase; amplification, not tautology. He appears to consider a liberal prolixity as the most radiant proof of genius, and to disdain any of the self-denying calculated retrenchments of taste. What Jeremy Taylor was in homeletic eloquence, Klopstock is in epic poetry. Both have expanded into a great book the life of Christ. Both delight alike in the extacies of piety and the marvels of mysticism; they are continually ascending from the ground of fact into the pleroma of hypothesis, extolling the simplest

sentiments to rhapsodies of inspiration, and consecrating the veriest accidents into primordial dispensations and mysteries of Providence. Both indulge a fickle, abrupt, interstitial style, which betrays every repose of the pen. Layers of affecting plainness, and affected sonorosity, of scholastic jargon, and oriental sensualization, succeed each other without blending. Yet to both belong tongues of angels. Their words are sweet as manna, pleasant as nard, luxuriant as the bowers of Eden. But they pluck where they should cull. From their basketfulls of iris, all hues, roses, and jessamin, might have been woven a garland for hovering seraphs to wave in triumph over their hero: they prefer to scatter the indiscriminate plenty beneath his foot-fall. Bishop Taylor is indeed one of the English writers who has most contributed to tinge the mind of Klopstock: Milton, Young, and, if I mistake not, Mrs. Rowe's Letters from the Dead to the Living, are also of the number: but it is not always as interesting as it may be meritorious, to track this holy writer in his own snow. Religious zealotry, and German nationality have occasionally bestowed* on the author of the Messiah excessive applause; yet, when every allowance is made for what is temporary and local in opinion, enough of merit no doubt remains to place his work among the lasting monuments of mighty minds. Probably posterity will station him nearer to Macpherson in rank and quality, than to any other of the more distinguished epic poets: both err by a too frequent recurrence of analogous imagery, and by an unvarying long-drawn plaintiveness of tone: both delight by a perpetual majesty of style, and by the heroic elevation and purity of the manners of their personages. Is it not glory in the highest to be the Ossian of Zion?

* "He stands higher than Milton, higher than Homer; a miracle of our century; his Messiah is one of the first masterpieces of human intellect."

MADISON'S ACCOUNT OF THE SUPPOSED FORTIFICATIONS IN THE WESTERN COUNTRY, IN A LETTER TO DR. BARTON.

From the American Philosophical Transactions.

DEAR SIR,

HAVING lately visited that beautiful river, the Kanhawa, and a considerable part of the country, within its neighbourhood, an opportunity was afforded of examining, with attention, some of those remarkable phenomena, which there present themselves, and which have been so much the subject of conversation, and of literary discussion. To remove error, of whatever kind, is, in effect, to promote the progress of intelligence; with this view, I will endeavour to prove to you, that my journey has enabled me to strike one, at least, from that long catalogue, which so often tortures human ingenuity.

You have often heard of those remarkable fortifications with which the western country abounds; and you know also, how much it has puzzled some of our literati, who supposed themselves, no doubt, most profound in historical, geographical, and philosophical lore, to give a satisfactory account of such surprising monuments of military labour and art. Some have called to their aid the bold and indefatigable Ferdinand Soto; others the fabulous Welch prince of the 12th century; and all have made a thousand conjectures, as lifeless as either Soto or the prince. Had they first examined into the fact, and endeavoured to settle this most essential pre-requisite, they would soon have seen, that the enquiry might be very easily terminated; and, that what had so greatly excited the *admiration of the curious*, existed only in their own imaginations. No one was more impressed than myself with the general opinion, that there did exist regular and extensive fortifications, of great antiquity, in

many parts of that vast country, which is watered by the various tributary streams of the Ohio and the Mississippi. The first specimen which I beheld, was examined with an ardent curiosity, and with a full conviction, that it was the work of a people, skilled in the means of military defence. The appearance is imposing: the mind seems to acquiesce in the current opinion, and more disposed to join in a fruitless admiration, than to question the reality of those fortifications. But as my observations were extended, and new specimens daily presented themselves, the delusion vanished; I became convinced, that those works were not fortifications, and never had the smallest relation to military defence. The reasons upon which this conviction, so contrary to that which has been generally received, was founded, I shall now submit to your consideration. Only, let me first observe, that those supposed fortifications differ as to area and form. Some are found on the banks of rivers, presenting a semi-ellipse, the greater axis running along the banks; others are nearly circular, remote from water, and small; their diameters seldom exceeding forty or fifty yards. The first of these species is the largest; their longer axis, at a mean rate, may be estimated at 250 yards; their shorter at 200 or 220. It is said, and I believe upon good authority, that some have been found large enough to comprehend fifty acres, and even more. Some are also reported to be square; but I did not see any of that form. I shall confine myself to those which I have seen, and which are to be met with in the low grounds of the rivers Kanhawa, Elk, and Guyandot, or their adjacent uplands; though I am persuaded the conclusion which I undertake to establish, will be applicable to all those works, which have been dignified with the appellation of fortifications, in whatever part of the western country they may be found; since, from the information I have obtained, there are certain striking features in which they all agree, and which indicate one common origin and destination.

1. Those works were not designed for fortifications, because many of them have the ditch within the enclosure, and because the earth thrown up, or the supposed parapet, wants the elevation necessary for a defensive work. Both these circumstances occur, without exception, so far as my observations went, in all those which present an entire, or nearly a regular circle. The imaginary breast-work induces a belief, that it never exceeded four or five feet in height. At present, the bank seldom rises more than three feet above the plain; and it is well known, that in ground which does not wash, a bank of earth, thrown up in usual way, will lose very little of its height in a century, or twenty centuries; one fourth for depression would be more than a sufficient allowance. But we will not rest our argument upon what may, perhaps, be deemed a disputable point. The ditch, even at this day, affords a certain criterion by which we may judge of the original elevation of the bank. Its width seldom exceeds four feet at its margin; its depth is little more than two feet. Such a ditch, making every allowance for the operation of those causes, which tend continually to diminish its depth, whilst some of them are, at the same time, increasing its width, could not have yielded more earth, than would form a bank of the elevation mentioned. If the width now, be not greater than that ascribed, we may be assured that, originally, it was a very trifling fosse. But you will naturally ask, are there not some found which present a different aspect, and which evidence more laborious efforts? no, on the contrary, it is remarkable, that the kind of which I am now writing, have as constant a similarity to each other, as those rude edifices, or cabins, which our first settlers rear. The description of one will answer for all; there is no

anomaly, except, now and then, in the diameter of the circle; and here, the variation will only amount to a few yards.

Permit me now to ask, whether the military art does not necessarily require, that the ditch should be *exterior;* and whether, among any people advanced to such a degree of improvement in the arts, as to attempt defensive works by throwing up earth, a single instance can be adduced, in which the ditch has not an exterior position. Again, can we believe that a work, having a bank or ditch not higher or deeper than I have mentioned, could be intended as a fortification? The moment which gave birth to the idea of a defensive work, would also show that it must, in its execution, be rendered adequate to the end contemplated. It is scarcely worth while to go back to Livy or Polybius, upon this occasion. But they both inform us, "that the Romans, in the early period of their warfare, dug trenches, which were, at least, eight feet broad, by six deep; that they were often twelve feet in breadth; sometimes fifteen or twenty; that, of the earth dug out of the fosse, and thrown up *on the side of the camp*, they formed the parapet, or breast-work; and to make it more firm, mingled with it turf, cut in a certain size and form. Upon the brow of the parapet, palisades were also planted, firmly fixed and closely connected." The form of the fortification was always square. System appears to have been the tutelar deity of the Romans. They always proceeded upon one plan. As to the form, indeed, there appears to be no reason why that should not vary, not only among different nations, but with the same nation, as different situations might require. The Creeks generally preferred the round figure; but with them, the nature of places decided the question as to form. In other respects, the decision must be made according to fixed and unalterable principles. The same reasons which determined every particular as to height, depth, and position of the earth thrown up, among the Romans, would equally determine the conduct of any other nation. What defence required; what would oppose a sufficient obstacle to human agility, was the point to be decided; and this point to be decided in nearly the same manner by every people unacquainted with gun-powder..... The decision would not admit of such fosses and parapets as we find dispersed over the western country. Man, in this new world, has lost no portion of his former agility.

2. Because, near to most of these imaginary fortifications, and I think I may say, near to every one, which is formed upon the plan first mentioned, in a direct line with the gateway, you will find a mound, of an easy ascent, and from ten to twenty feet in height. These mounds effectually command the whole inclosure. There is not a missile weapon which would not, from the height and distance of the mound, fall within the fortification; nor would they fall in vain. But to rear a fortification, and then build a castle or mound without, at the distance of forty or fifty yards, which would give to an enemy the entire command of such a fortification, would be as little recommended by an Esquimaux, as by a Bonaparte. The truth is, no such blunder has been committed; there is no such discordancy of means to be here found. On the contrary, we may trace a perfect harmony of parts. Those mounds are universally cemeteries. Wherever they have been opened, we find human bones, and Indian relics. They have grown up gradually, as death robbed a family of its relatives, or a tribe of its warriors. Alternate strata of bones and earth, mingled with stones and Indian relics, establish this position. And hence it is that we find near the summit of those mounds articles of European manufacture, such as the tomahawk and knife; but never are they seen at any depth in the mound. Besides, it is well known,

that among many of the Indian tribes, the bones of the deceased are annually collected and deposited in one place; that funeral rites are then solemnized with the warmest expressions of love and friendship; and that this untutored race, urged by the feelings of nature, consign to the bosom of the earth, along with the remains of their deceased relatives and friends, food, weapons of war, and often those articles which they possessed and most highly valued when alive. This custom has reared, beyond doubt, those numerous mounds. Thus, instead of having any relation to military arrangements, or involving the absurdity before-mentioned, they furnish, on the contrary, strong evidence, that the enclosures themselves were not destined for defensive works; because, reared as these mounds have been, by small, but successive annual increments, they plainly evince that the inclosures, which are so near to them, have been not the temporary stations of a retiring or weakened army, but the fixed habitation of a family, and a long line of descendants.

That these mounds, or repositories of the dead, sometimes also called barrows, were formed by depositions of bones and earth, at different periods, is now rendered certain, by the perfect examination to which one of them, situated on the Rivanna, was subjected by the author of the Notes on Virginia. His penetrating genius seldom touches a subject without throwing upon it new light; upon this he has shown all that can be desired. The manner in which the barrow was opened afforded an opportunity of viewing its interior with accuracy..... "Appearances," says he, "certainly indicate that it has derived both origin and growth from the accustomary collection of bones, and deposition of them together; that the first collection had been deposited on the common surface of the earth, a few stones put over it, and then a covering of earth; that the second had been laid on this, had covered more or less of it, in proportion to the number of bones, and was then also covered with earth, and so on. The following are the particular circumstances which give it this aspect: 1. The number of bones. 2. Their confused position. 3. Their being in different strata. 4. The strata in one part having no correspondence with those in another. 5. The different states of decay in these strata, which seem to indicate a difference in the time of inhumation. 6. The existence of infant bones among them." p. 178, first Paris ed. The number of bones in this barrow or mound, which was only forty feet in diameter at the base, and above twelve in height, authorized the conjecture that it contained a thousand skeletons. Now, as all those numerous mounds, or barrows, have the most obvious similarity, we may conclude, that what is true of one of them is, ceteris paribus, applicable to all. The only difference consists in their dimensions. I visited one, situated on the low grounds of the Kanhawa, which might be almost called the pyramid of the west. Its base measured one hundred and forty yards in circumference; its altitude is very nearly forty feet. It resembles a truncated cone; upon the top there is a level of twelve or thirteen feet in diameter. A tall oak, of two feet and a half in diameter, which had grown on the top, and had long looked down upon the humble foresters below, had experienced a revolutionary breeze, which swept it from its majestic station, apparently, above six or seven years before my visit. Within a few miles of this stands another, which is said to be higher. No marks of excavation near the mound are to be seen. On the contrary, it is probable, from the examination which was made, that the earth composing the mound was brought from some distance; it is also highly probable, that this was done at different periods, for we cannot believe that savages would submit to the patient exertion of labour requisite to accomplish such a work, at

any one undertaking. Near to this large one are several upon a much smaller scale. But if that upon the Rivanna, which was so accurately examined, contained the bones of a thousand persons, this upon the Kanhawa would contain forty times that number, estimating their capacities as cones. But who will believe that war has ever been glutted with so many Indian victims by any one battle? The probability seems to be, that those mounds, formed upon so large a scale, were national burying-places; especially as they are not connected with any particular enclosure; whilst those upon a smaller scale, and which are immediately connected with such a work, were the repositories of those, who had there once enjoyed a fixed habitation. But whether this conjecture be admitted or not, the inference, from what has been said under this head, that those enclosures could not be designed as fortifications, will, I think, be obvious to every one.

3. Because those supposed fortifications not unfrequently lie at the very bottom of a hill, from which stones might be rolled in thousands into every part of them, to the no small annoyance, we may readily conceive, of the besieged.

4. Because in those works which are remote from a river or a creek, you find no certain indications of a well; and yet that water is a very necessary article to a besieged army, will be acknowledged on all hands.

5. Because those works are so numerous, that, supposing them to be fortifications, we must believe every inch of that very extensive country, in which they are found, had been most valiantly and obstinately disputed. For, upon the Kanhawa, to the extent of eighty or a hundred miles, and also upon many of the rivers which empty their waters into it, there is scarcely a square mile in which you will not meet with several. Indeed, they are as thick, and as irregularly dispersed, as you have seen the habitations of farmers, or planters, in a rich and well settled country, but, notwithstanding their frequency, you no where see such advantageous positions selected, as the nature of the ground, and other circumstances, would immediately have recommended to the rudest engineer, either for the purpose of opposing inroads, or of giving protection to an army which was too weak to withstand an invading enemy..... The union of Elk and Kanhawa rivers affords a point of defence, which could not have escaped the attention of any people; and yet we find no fortification at this place, but many dispersed through the low grounds in its vicinity.

I could add many other reasons: I might observe that some are upon so small a scale, whilst others are upon one so large, as equally to oppose the idea of their being places of defence. If one of forty or fifty yards in diameter should be deemed too small for a defensive work, what shall we say to that whose outline embraces fifty or even a hundred acres? What tribe of Indians would furnish men sufficient to defend such a breast-work in all its points? But I believe the reasons assigned, when collectively taken, will be deemed conclusive; or as abundantly establishing a perfect conviction, that these western enclosures were not designed for fortifications. This was my object. What was the real design of them may be left to future enquiry. It is true, that we want here a compass to guide us, and are left to find our way through this night of time, in the best manner we can. I have already said, that those enclosures carried along with them strong evidence of their being fixed habitations. If so, then they were designed merely as lines of demarkation, showing the particular spot or portion of ground which a family wished to appropriate; and, indeed, they may be considered as exemplars of the manner in which land limits would be ascertained, previous to that period when geometry begins to point out a mode more worthy of

intelligent beings. This rude mode might, in a sequel of years, have introduced a geometry among the aborigines of America. Though they had not a Nile to obliterate land marks, still the desire of saving labour would produce in one case what anxiety to preserve property did in the other. If the same mode has not been continued, it has arisen from the means, which European or American art has supplied, of accomplishing the same end with much more facility.

The people inhabiting this country must have been numerous. The frequency of their burying-places is a proof. The traveller finds them in every direction, and, often, many in every mile. Under a mild climate, a people will always multiply in proportion to the quantity of food which they can procure. Here, the waters contain fish in considerable abundance, some weighing not less than sixty or eighty pounds. Not far distant are those extensive and fertile plains, which were crowded with wild animals. The mildness of the climate is also remarkable..... It appears to equal that of Richmond or Williamsburg; though the huge range of mountains which attend the Allegheny have not yet disappeared, and though the latitude of the place where Elk and Kanhawa rivers meet, according to an observation which I made with an imperfect instrument, is 38° 2′. All these circumstances were highly favourable to population, and also to permanent residence. Another circumstance, the face of the country, or locality, would serve to prevent this increase of population from diffusing itself on every side, and consequently would condense a tribe; for the Kanhawa and its tributary streams are hemmed in by high and craggy hills, often approaching to mountains, and beyond which, to a considerable extent, the country in general is fit only for the habitation of wild beasts.

It is true, that on the N. W. side of the Ohio, there are works which seem to claim higher pretensions to the rank assigned them. They present more elevated parapets, deeper ditches, with other indications of military art. Perhaps, however, when more accurately examined, in all their aspects, they will be found to be only the habitation of a chief of some powerful tribe. The love of distinction prevails with no less force in the savage, than the civilized breast. Mackenzie, in his unadorned narratives, mentions frequently the habitation of the chief, or king, as much larger, and even as commodious, when compared with those of inferior rank. In latitudes so high as those which he traversed, with heroic perseverance, necessity compelled the savage to contrive more warm and durable habitations; but the same principle which would give marks of distinction to the residence of the chieftain in one climate, would produce the same effect in any other, though they might assume different appearances. Besides, it might not be improper to recollect, in an examination of those works, that the French began to build forts in the Miamis and Illinois country, as early as the year 1680; and that they were afterwards systematically continued until the loss of Canada.

I cannot conclude this letter, already, I fear, too long, without mentioning another curious specimen of Indian labour, and of their progress in one of the arts. This specimen is found within four miles of the place, whose latitude I endeavoured to take, and within two of what are improperly called *burning springs*, upon a rock of hard freestone, which lies sloping to the south, touching the margin of the river, and presents a flat surface of above twelve feet in length, and nine in breadth, with a plain side to the east of eight or nine feet in thickness.

Upon the upper surface of this rock, and also upon the side, we see the outlines of several figures, cut without relief, except in one instance, and somewhat larger than the life. The depth of the outline may be half an inch; its width three

quarters, nearly, in some places. In one line, ascending from the part of the rock nearest the river, there is a tortoise; a spread eagle, executed with great expression, particularly the head, to which is given a shallow relief; and a child, the outline of which is very well drawn. In a parallel line there are other figures; but among them that of a woman only can be traced. These are very indistinct. Upon the side of the rock, there are two aukward figures, which particularly caught my attention. One is that of a man, with his arms uplifted, and his hands spread out, as if engaged in prayer. His head is made to terminate in a point; or rather he has the appearance of something upon the head, of a triangular or conical form: near to him is another similar figure suspended by a cord fastened to his heels.

I recollected the story which father Hennepin relates of one of the missionaries from Canada, who was treated in a somewhat similar manner; but whether this piece of seemingly historical sculpture has reference to such an event, can be only matter of conjecture. A turkey, badly executed, with a few other figures, may also be seen. The labour and the perseverance requisite to cut those rude figures in a rock so hard, that steel appeared to make but little impression upon it, must have been great: much more so, than making of enclosures in a loose and fertile soil.

ON THE CHOICE OF A WIFE.

From a Father to a Son.

THERE is no advice which seems to come with more propriety from parents to children, than that which respects marriage; for it is a matter, in which the first must have some experience, and the last cannot have any. At the same time, it is found to be that in which advice produces the least effect. For this, various causes may be assigned; of which, no doubt, the principal is, that passion commonly takes this affair under its management, and excludes reason from any share in it. I am inclined to think, however, that the neglect with which admonitions on this head are treated, is frequently owing to the manner in which they are given, which is too general, too formal, and with too little accommodation to the feelings of young persons. If, in descanting a little on this subject, I avoid these errors, I flatter myself you are capable of bestowing some unforced attention to what an affectionate desire of promoting your happiness, in so essential a point, may prompt.

The difference of opinion between sons and fathers in the matrimonial choice, arises from this....that the former have in their minds the first month of marriage, the latter, the whole of its duration. Perhaps you will deny, and justly, that this is the difference between us two, and will assert that you, as well as I, in thinking of this connection, reflect on its lasting consequences. So much the better! We are then agreed as to the mode in which it is to be considered, and I have the advantage of you only in experience and more extensive observation.

I need say little as to the share that personal charms ought to have in fixing a choice of this kind. While I readily admit, that the object on which the eyes are most frequently to dwell for a whole life, should be an agreeable one, you will probably as freely acknowledge, that more than this is of too fanciful and fugitive a nature to come into the computation of permament enjoyment. Perhaps in this matter I might look more narrowly for you, than you would for yourself, and require a fitness of years and vigour of constitution, which might continue this advantage to a period that you do not yet dream of. But let us proceed to consider the two points on which the happiness expected from

a female associate must depend.... her qualifications as a companion, and as a helper.

Were you engaged to make a voyage round the world on condition of sharing a cabin with an unknown messmate, how solicitous would you be to discover his character and disposition before you set sail! If, on enquiry, he should prove to be a person of good sense and cultivated manners, and especially of a temper inclined to please and be pleased, how fortunate would you think yourself! But if, in addition to this, his tastes, studies, and opinions, should be found conformable to yours, your satisfaction would be complete. You could not doubt that the circumstance which brought you together would lay the foundation of an intimate and delightful friendship. On the other hand, if he were represented, by those who thoroughly knew him, as weak, ignorant, obstinate, and quarrelsome, of manners and dispositions totally opposite to your own, you would probably rather give up your project, than submit to live so many months with such an associate.

Apply this to the companion of the voyage of life....the intimate of all hours....the partaker of all fortunes....the sharer in pain and pleasure....the mother and instructress of your offspring. Are you not struck with a sense of what infinite consequence it must be to you, what are the qualities of the heart and understanding of one who stands in this relation; and of the comparative insignificance of external charms and ornamental accomplishments? But as it is scarcely probable that all you would wish in these particulars can be obtained, it is of importance to ascertain which qualities are the most essential, that you may make the best compromise in your power. Now, tastes, manners, and opinions, being things not original, but acquired, cannot be of so much consequence as the fundamental properties of good sense and good temper. Possessed of these, a wife, who loves her husband, will fashion herself in the others according to what she perceives to be his inclination; and if, after all, a considerable diversity remain between them in such points, this is not incompatible with domestic comfort. But sense and temper can never be dispensed with in the companion for life: they form the basis on which the whole edifice of happiness is to be raised. As both are absolutely essential, it is needless to enquire which is so in the highest degree. Fortunately, they are oftener met with together than separate; for the just and reasonable estimation of things which good sense inspires, almost necessarily produces that equanimity and moderation of mind in which good temper consists. There is, indeed, a kind of thoughtless good-nature which is not unfrequently coupled with weakness of understanding; but having no power of self-direction, its operations are capricious, and no reliance can be placed on it in promoting solid felicity. When, however, this easy humour appears with the attractions of youth and beauty, there is some danger lest even men of sense should overlook the defects of a shallow capacity, especially if they have entertained the common notion, that women are no better than playthings, designed rather for the amusement of their lords and masters, than for the more serious purposes of life. But no man ever married a fool without severely repenting it; for though the pretty trifler may have served well enough for the hour of dalliance and gaiety, yet when folly assumes the reins of domestic, and especially of parental, controul, she will give a perpetual heart-ache to a considerate partner.

On the other hand, there are to be met with instances of considerable powers of the understanding, combined with waywardness of temper, sufficient to destroy all the comfort of life. Malignity is sometimes joined with wit, haughtiness and caprice with talents, sourness and suspicion with sagacity, and cold reserve with judgment. But all these being in themselves unamiable qua-

lities, it is less necessary to guard against the possesors of them. They generally render even beauty unattractive; and no charm but that of fortune is able to overcome the repugnance they excite. How much more fatal than even folly they are to all domestic felicity, you have probably already seen enough of the matrimonial state to judge.

Many of the qualities which fit a woman for a companion, also adapt her for the office of a helper; but many additional ones are requisite. The original purpose for which this sex was created, is said, you know, to have been, providing man with a help-mate; yet it is, perhaps, that notion of a wife which least occupies the imagination in the season of courtship. Be assured, however, that as an office for life, its importance stands extremely high to one whose situation does not place him above the want of such aid; and fitness for it should be a leading consideration in his choice. Romantic ideas of domestic felicity will infallibly in time give way to that true state of things, which will show that a large part of it must arise from well ordered affairs, and an accumulation of petty comforts and conveniences. A clean and quiet fireside, regular and agreeable meals, decent apparel, a house managed with order and economy, ready for the reception of a friend or the accommodation of a stranger, a skilful as well as affectionate nurse in time of sickness....all these things compose a considerable part of what the nuptial state was intended to afford us; and, without them, no charms of person or understanding will long continue to bestow delight. The arts of housewifery should be regarded as professional to the woman who intends to become a wife; and to select one for that station who is destitute of them, or disinclined to exercise them, however otherwise accomplished, is as absurd, as it would be to chuse for your lawyer or physician a man who excelled in every thing rather than in law or physic.

Let me remark, too, that knowledge and good-will are not the only requisites for the office of a helper. It demands a certain energy both of body and mind, which is less frequently met with among the females of the present age than might be wished. How much soever infirm and delicate health may interest the feelings, it is certainly an undesirable attendant on a connection for life. Nothing can be more contrary to the qualification of a helpmate, than a condition which constantly requires that assistance which it can never impart. It is, I am sure, the farthest thing from my intention to harden your heart against impressions of pity, or slacken those services of affectionate kindness by which you may soften the calamitous lot of the most amiable and deserving of the species. Bnt a matrimonial choice is a choice for your own benefit, by which you are to obtain additional sources of happiness; and it would be mere folly in their stead voluntarily to take upon you new incumbrances and distresses. A kin to an unnerved frame of body, is that shrinking timidity of mind, and excessive nicety of feeling, which is too much encouraged under the notion of female delicacy. That this is carried beyond all reasonable bounds, in modern education, can scarcely be doubted by one who considers what exertions of fortitude and self-command are continually required in the course of female duty. One who views society closely, in its interior as well as its exterior, will know that occasions of alarm, suffering, and disgust, come much more frequently in the way of women than of men. To them belong all offices about the weak, the sick, and the dying. When the house becomes a scene of wretchedness from any cause, the man often runs abroad, the woman must stay at home and face the worst. All this takes place in cultivated society, and in classes of life raised above the common level. In a savage state, and in the lower conditions, women are com-

pelled to undergo even the most laborious as well as the most disagreeable tasks. If nature, then, has made them so weak in temper and constitution as many suppose, she has not suited means to ends with the foresight we generally discover in her plans.

I confess myself of the opinion of those who would rather form the two sexes to a resemblance of character, than contrast them. Virtue, wisdom, presence of mind, patience, vigour, capacity, application, are not sexual qualities; they belong to mankind....to all who have duties to perform and evils to endure. It is surely a most degrading idea of the female sex, that they must owe their influence to trick and finesse, to counterfeit or real weakness. They are too essential to our happiness to need such arts; too much of the pleasure and of the business of the world depends upon them, to give reason for apprehension that we shall cease to join partnership with them. Let them aim at excelling in the qualities peculiarly adapted to the parts they have to act, and they may be excused from affected languor and coquetry We shall not think them less amiable for being our best helpers.

Having thus endeavoured to give you just ideas of the principal requisites in a wife, especially in a wife for one in your condition, I have done all that lies within the province of a counsellor. From the influence of passion I cannot guard you: I can only deprecate its power. It may be more to the purpose to dissuade you from hasty engagements, because in making them, a person of any resolution is not to be regarded as merely passive. Though the head has lost its rule over the heart, it may retain its command over the hand. And surely if we are to pause before any action, it should be before one on which "all the colour of remaining life" depends. Your reason must be convinced, that to form a solid judgment of so many qualities as are requisite in the conjugal union, is no affair of days and weeks, of casual visits or public exhibitions. Study your object at home....see her tried in her proper department. Let the progress be, liking, approving, loving, and lastly declaring; and may you, after the experience of as many years as I have had, be as happily convinced, that a choice so formed is not likely to deceive!

You may think it strange, that I have not touched upon a consideration which generally takes the lead in parental estimates of matrimonial views....that of fortune. But I have been treating on the woman only, not on any thing extraneous to her. Fortune acquired with a wife, is the same thing as fortune got any other way. Its has its value, and certainly no small one, in procuring the desirable comforts of life; and to rush into a state in which wants will be greatly increased, without a reasonable prospect of being able to supply those wants, is an act, not merely of carelessness, but of downright folly. But with respect to the sources whence their supply is to be sought, that is a particular enquiry to each individual; and I do not think so ill of your prudence as to apprehend that you will not give it all the attention its importance demands..... Another consideration, that of the family connections formed by marriage, is of a similar kind. Its great importance cannot be doubted; but it is an affair to be determined on by the dictates of common prudence, just as in forming those connections after any other mode; though, indeed, in no other can they be formed equally strong. One who is master of his deliberations, may be trusted to decide these points, as well as any others that occur in the practice of life.

LOVE.

MENTAL love is a thing as pure as light, sacred as a temple, lasting as the world. That love that can cease, as said an ancient, was

never true. Mental love contains in it all sweetness, all society, all felicity, all prudence, and all wisdom. It is an union of all things excellent; it contains proportion, satisfaction, rest, and confidence. The eyes of a wife are then fair as the light of heaven; a man may then ease his cares, and lay down his sorrows upon her lap, and can retire home as to his sanctuary and refectory, and his gardens of sweetness and of chaste refreshment.

IS RHYME AN ORNAMENT, OR A DEFECT, IN VERSE?

But those that write in rhyme still make
The one verse for the other's sake;
For one for sense, and one for rhyme,
I think 's sufficient at one time

BUTLER.

WHILE the sentimental reader values himself upon "being pleased, he knows not why, and cares not wherefore," the philosophical critic will not think it quite absurd, to investigate the sources of the pleasures we derive from literary productions; and to distinguish such as are the genuine offspring of truth and nature, from those which owe their existence to false opinion, or depraved taste, and are preserved by the mere force of habit and custom. That we are often pleased with things which ought not to please us, is as true in matters of taste, as in morals; and, in both cases, it is only by bringing our feelings to the standard of reason, that we can determine whether they ought to be indulged.

If, as we daily see, it is in the power of fashion, by the capricious strokes of his harlequin-wand, to vary, at pleasure, the forms of beauty, and, in endless freaks, to make that which to-day is enchanting, to-morrow odious and shocking; why may not time and habit be able, by a contrary process, to reconcile us to absurdities; and to make us fancy beauty and excellence, where there is, in reality, nothing but whim and conceit? Will it, then, in this age of innovation, be thought too daring an intrusion into the mysteries of sacred poesy, if we venture to enquire, whether the modern practice of writing verse in rhyme, be founded in nature and reason, and consonant to the genuine principles of taste?....or, whether the pleasure derived from it, be not the mere effect of arbitrary association? whether, if the origin, nature, and effects, of this practice be fairly examined, it will not be found, that rhyme, instead of being an ornament, is a defect in verse?

If we were inclined to refer the question to the decision of authority, such an appeal would be ineffectual. Against the oracular decision of Dr. Johnson, though supported by the voice of other critics of no mean name, it might be sufficient to cast into the opposite scale the weighty judgment of Milton, who has said, that "rhyme is no necessary adjunct, or true ornament, of poem or good verse; but the invention of a barbarous age, to set off wretched matter and lame metre, graced, indeed, since, by the use of some famous modern poets, carried away by custom, but much to their own vexation, hindrance, and constraint, to express many things otherwise, and for the most part worse, than they would have expressed them." If the success of many modern poets, in rhyme, be urged as a proof, in fact, of the excellence of this mode of versifying, it will remain to be asked, whether the same genius, and the same taste, exercised without "the troublesome bondage of rhyming," might not have produced performances of still higher merit. If a numerous band of great poets should be thought to have given this practice the sanction of their approbation, by writing, for the most part, in rhyme, it should be recollected, that several of the more eminent of our English poets have expressed their restlessness under this grievous yoke. Dryden, of whom Johnson has said, perhaps

with exaggerated praise, that "to him we owe the improvement, perhaps the completion, of our metre," calls rhyme

"At best, a pleasing sound, and fair barbarity."

Roscommon confesses, that rhyme is the cause of many faults; and that,

"Too strict to rhyme, we slight more useful laws."

Prior, in sober prose, complains, that rhyme "is too confined;" and that, "it cuts off the sense at the end of every first line, which must always rhyme to the next following, and consequently produces too frequently an identity in sound, and brings every couplet to the point of an epigram:"...."He that writes in rhyme," says this skilful rhymer, "dances in fetters." The ingenious author of Phædra and Hippolytus laments that "tyrannic rhyme ties the poet in needless bonds."

"Procrustes like, the axe or wheel applies,
To lop the mangl'd sense, or stretch it into size;
At best a crutch, that lifts the weak along,
Supports the feeble, but retards the strong;
And the chance thoughts, when govern'd by the close,
Oft rise to fustian, or descend to prose."

Even the witty Butler, who has, perhaps, used rhyme to better purpose than any other poet, has employed his playful fancy in ridiculing it; and has acknowledged, that in rhyming couplets, one verse is made for the other; and that

"Rhyme the rudder is of verses,
With which, like ships, they steer their courses."

If the merit of rhyme be estimated by its parentage, little can be said in its favour. It can boast no alliance with those great masters of fine writing, the Greeks and Romans. Homer and Virgil knew nothing of rhyme; and had they known it, there can be little doubt that they would have despised it. If modern research has discovered some traces of this ingenious device in the eastern nations, it is certain, that with respect to us, the practice has originated from bards, or monks. Among the latter, the idle hours of monastic life were often worn away in writing wretched Latin rhymes, in honour of Christ, the Virgin Mary, or some newly-created saint. About the time that we find an acrostic, with the name *Jesus* at each end of the lines, we meet with the following tender rhymes*:

"*Jesus decus angelicum,*
In aure dulce canticum,
In ore mel miricificum,
In corde nectar Cælicum!
Quocunque loco fuero,
Mecum Jesum desidero,
Quam lætus cum invenero!
Quam fælix cum tenuero!"

"Jesus, my glory, name angelic!
'Tis in the ear, the sweetest music;
'Tis in the mouth, honey delicious;
'Tis in the heart, nectar most precious;
Whatever place to me shall be given,
Jesus still with me, 'twill be my heaven;
Rapt in delight, wherever I find him,
While in my arms I joyfully bind him."

The rest *must not* be copied. This kind of rhymes continued to be the amusement of the monks, till the reformation. Harrington, in his *Nugæ Antiquæ*, has preserved a hymn, with the notes, which was sung in their cells, till, he says, "goodlie king Henry spoiled their synging." The hymn † was called "*Black*

* Fabricii Poet. Vet Eccl. Basil. 1562.

† We give our learned readers this *morsel* in hopes that some one of them will amuse himself with translating it:

HYMN TO SAUNTE SATAN.

O tu qui dans oracula, scindis etiam novacula,
Da nostra ut tabernacula, lingua canant vernacula,
Opima post jentacula, hujusmodi miracula,

Saunte," or, "Hymn to Saunte Satan." From the authors of such enchanting strains was it too much to expect improvements upon the Pindaric or Horatian lyre?

In order to estimate, correctly, the value of this improvement, let us endeavour to analyse the nature, and investigate the operation, of rhyme. Rhyme is the repetition of the same sound, or sounds, at intervals, either regular, or irregular. Sometimes the rhyming syllables are single, sometimes double; sometimes the rhymes occur uniformly in couplets; sometimes they are placed alternately, or in forms still more complex. In all these varieties, it is very evident, that the pleasure which rhymes afford, does not altogether arise from the repetition of similar sounds. No ear would be gratified with the recital of a column of rhyming words, from a spelling-book, or a rhyming dictionary. In lines of unequal length written without any regard to numbers, the effect of the rhymes is lost; as will be easily perceived, in the following lines from Dean Swift's Mrs. Harris's Petition:

"I never was taken for a conjurer before, I'd have you to know;
Lord, said I, don't be angry, I'm sure, I never thought you so:
You know, I honor the cloth; I design to be a parson's wife;
I never took one in your coat for a conjurer in all my life."

Sit semper plenum poculum, habentes plenum loculum,
Tu serva nos ut specula, per longa et læta secula,
Ut clerus, ut plebecula, nec nocte, nec diecula,
Curent de ulla recula, sed intuentes specula,
Dura vitemus spicula, jacentes cum amicula,
Quæ garrit ut cornicula, seu tristia seu ridicula,
Tum porrigamus escula, tum colligamus floscula,
Ornemus ut cœnaculum, et totum habitaculum,
Tum culi post spiraculum, spectemus hoc spectaculum.

As far, however, as the pleasure of rhyme is to be referred simply to the frequent recurrence of similar sounds, it perhaps arises chiefly, if not entirely, from the surprise excited by unexpected combinations, and is to be considered as belonging to the lower species of wit. In conversation, such combinations of similar sounds seldom occur; and therefore, when they happen, we usually notice them with some degree of surprise. It is the continuation, of the same perception which we experience, when we hear the frequent return of rhymes in studied verse: and hence it is, that in reading long works written in rhyme, the pleasure, as far as depends upon the rhyming words alone, gradually decreases, till, at length, the surprise ceasing, the repitition becomes tiresome. "Rhyme (says Lord Kaimes) rouzes the attention, and produces an emotion moderately gay, without dignity or elevation."

If this be the true explanation of the pleasure arising from rhyming words, it is evident, that the use of this ornament, if it must be called such, is a kind of low wit; and that the ear is gratified by it, for the same reason that the eye is amused by anagrams and acrostics. It may then be fairly asked, what alliance is there between the puerile amusement of jingling syllables, and the sublime and elegant pleasures of genuine poetry? We are displeased when Shakspeare intrudes a pun in the midst of his noble flights of fancy, or tender strokes of passion: what, but custom, could enable us to endure, in the more elevated kinds of verse, the perpetual intrusion of a still lower species of wit, in the unusual combinations of similar sounds? The noble exertions of creative genius are degraded, and great things are confounded with small, when the poet clothes his grand conceptions in the fantastic dress of rhyming couplets; and it is habit alone, which renders us insensible of the incongruity. Could we divest ourselves of the prejudice arising from habit, it would be impossible to read

two passages of nearly equal poetic merit, one in rhyme, the other in blank verse, such, for example, as Pope's celebrated imitation of Homer's Night-piece, at the end of the eighth book of the Iliad, and Milton's description of Night in the fourth book of Paradise Lost, without feeling, that, while, in the latter, just and beautiful imagery appears without alloy in all the dignity of poetical language, the former loses some portion of the effect of imagery equally just and beautiful, by an unseasonable and incongruous mixture of the trivial and playful.

But, it will be said, that in estimating the value of rhyme, we ought not to consider the mere reiteration of similar sounds, but observe the effect of this repetition, when combined, at regular intervals, with metrical numbers. Thus combined, rhyme is supposed to furnish an admirable expedient for constructing harmonious verses in languages whose metre is scanty and imperfect. Dr. Johnson vindicates the use of rhyme, in English verse, chiefly on this ground: "the music (says he) of the English heroic line strikes the ear so faintly, that it is easily lost, unless all the syllables of every line co-operate together: this co-operation can only be obtained by the preservation of every verse unmingled with another, as a distinct system of sounds: and this distinctness is obtained and preserved by the artifice of rhyme*."

In this argument, it is too confidently assumed, that the English language is so defective in metrical power, as to render the help of rhyme necessary. If it be true, that English verse is formed by accent, and not by quantity, it is at least as easy to ascertain which syllables in a verse are accented or unaccented, as which are long or short. If, from long habit, Englishmen have taught their ears to find no melody in English verse, without the prevalence of that regular recurrence of accented syllables, which answers either to the iambic, the trochaic, or the anapæstic foot in ancient prosody; the difficulty of framing these, in verses and stanzas of a given form, cannot be greater than that of arranging words in all the varieties of feet and measure, which the several kinds of Greek and Latin verse require. Though English poets have relied too much upon their accustomed auxiliary, to make many experiments in blank verse, we are not without successful examples to prove, that the English language is capable of metrical melody without rhyme. What ear is not charmed with Collins's Ode to Evening, or Mrs. Barbauld's Ode to Spring?

If it be allowed, that rhyme is not a "necessary help," it must, at the same time, be admitted to be a grievous incumbrance.

One obvious inconvenience attending the use of rhyme is, that it puts a troublesome restraint upon the writer in the construction of his periods. Each couplet being, by itself, an entire structure of melody, it is naturally expected, that it should terminate with a pause in the sense. In stanzas where the rhyme is alternate, or mixed, it is commonly thought necessary that the sense and the melody should be completed together. Where these rules are frequently violated, the effect of the rhyme and numbers is impaired. The poet, in thus bringing every period to its proper dimensions, is sometimes obliged to stretch out a sentence beyond its proper length, but much more frequently to restrain his ideas, and contract his expressions, that both may be brought within the exact compass of his measure. As Lord Kaimes says, "the sentence must be curtailed and broken to pieces, to make it square with the curtness of rhyme." In some instances, this may produce conciseness and energy, and Pope has often been mentioned as a happy example of this effect. But whatever real advantage is gained in this respect by

* Life of Milton. See, to the same purpose, Bp. Hurd's Commentaries on on Horace, vol. ii. p. 156. Ed. 17.

rhyme, would be as well obtained in measured stanzas without it: and it is surely a sufficient check upon the flight of genius to tie it down to the laws of verse, without, at the same time, loading it with the shackles of rhyme.

An objection of still greater weight against the use of rhyme, arises from the restraint which it unavoidably lays upon the writer's conceptions and expression. It cannot be supposed, that, of the words which are most proper to express the poet's ideas, a sufficient number shall have similar endings; and that these very words shall exactly fall into that place which best suits the numbers and grammatical construction, and is the proper interval of the rhyme. In some instances, it must happen, that of the proper words in a couplet, no two shall be so fortunate in their termination, as to tally with each other. In other instances, though there should be two rhyming words within the required limit, it may not be possible, without the most aukward transposition, or even with it, to bring these two words to a proper distance from each other at the close of the lines. Whenever either of these cases happens, the poet, being determined not to part with his rhymes, must give up his poetical idea, and thus make a sacrifice of sense to sound.

For the same reason that the rhyming poet must drop many thoughts and expressions, which he might have wished to introduce, he must be often guided in the choice and arrangement of his ideas by the words which he finds it necessary to place at the close of his verses. It will seldom happen, that both lines of a couplet will be entirely dictated by fancy or sentiment; a regard to the rhyme will almost necessarily dictate the one or the other. A small degree of attention to the train of ideas in many of our most admired poems, will show, that thoughts and expressions are often introduced for the sake of the rhyme, which would not otherwise have been admitted. This is so manifest in every page of our modern rhyming versions of the ancient poets, that it is a perversion of terms to call them translations. The experiment has been fairly tried, by two poets of acknowledged excellence, in rendering into English verse the first poem of antiquity: and though some may be disposed to think Pope's Iliad a better poem than Cowper's, few persons will, I believe, doubt, that, as a translation, the former is inferior to the latter, and chiefly because it is burdened with rhyme. The same effect is apparent in every other kind of serious poetry. Take an example from Pope's Eloisa to Abelard:

"Ye rugged rocks, which holy knees have worn!
Ye grots and caverns, shagg'd with horrid thorn!
Shrines, where their vigils pale-ey'd virgins keep,
And pitying saints, whose statues learn to weep!
Tho' cold, like you, unmov'd and silent grown,
I have not yet forgot myself to stone."

Here, probably, the word *thorn*, happening to rhyme with *worn*, suggested the image of the second line; the fourth line was conceived before the third, and led the poet into the trivial expression, "keep their vigils;" and the last line, also formed before its fellow, requiring a rhyme to the word *stone*, prompted the flat and inelegant phrase, "grown unmov'd and silent."....When Pope had framed the strong line,

"An honest man's the noblest work of God."

he was, doubtless, resolved, at all events, to make another line for its sake, and wrote, to precede it, the quaint verse,

"A wit's a feather, and a chief's a rod."

Even writers of the first order have sometimes been betrayed, by

the seduction of rhyme, into inharmonious and unpoetical composition, which could not have escaped them in blank verse. Pope has hazarded the following couplets:

"Unfinish'd things one knows not what to call,
Their generation's so equivocal."

"Some beauties yet not precepts can declare,
For there's a happiness, as well as care."

And Dryden in his rhyming tragedy of Aurengzebe has written:

——"Are you so lost to shame?
Morat, Morat, Morat, you love the name
So well, your every question ends in *that*,
Your force me still to answer you, *Morat.*"

Such miserable jingle as this, is little better than Sternhold's *eke also*, and almost deserves a place with the following notable stanza:

"And Og the giant large,
And Basan king *also*,
Whose land, for heritage,
He gave his people—*tho'*."

Another argument against the use of rhyme, of too much weight to be omitted, is, that it produces a tiresome similarity of expression in different poems. The rhyming vocabulary being, in every language, exceedingly small, in comparison with that of words proper for verse, every versifier necessarily turns his thoughts to the same strings of rhyming words which have been hacknied by former poets; and it is scarcely possible, especially on similar subjects, that the same rhymes should not frequently suggest to different writers similar ideas and expressions. Perhaps this circumstance, more than any other, has contributed to produce the appearance of imitation in the writings of modern English poets, and to encourage an idea, by no means just, that the subjects of poetry are almost exhausted, and that genius will, in this late age, in vain attempt any thing new.

Rhyme, then, instead of being an ornament, may be pronounced, in general, an incongruous appendage, and a troublesome encumbrance of verse. In works of wit and humour, indeed, such as those of Butler and Swift, rhyme possesses its proper province, and may be advantageously retained, as a source of unexpected and whimsical combinations:.....but from every other kind of poetical composition, however bold the innovation, it might, perhaps, be a real improvement to dismiss it altogether. The good sense and correct taste of modern times has detected the absurdity of decking tragedy in the trim dress of rhyme: what is wanting, but a due attention to the subject, to extend the proscription which has banished rhyme from the English stage, to all serious poetry?

Whether the English language admits of any substitute for rhyme, by which the end of a verse may be as distinctly marked, as by the dactyl and spondee in hexameters; whether varieties of verse, composed of regular feet, similar to those of the ancient lyrics, can be successfully attempted; or, whether it be more favourable to the genuine spirit and primary end of poetry, that metrical melody should remain in the irregular and defective state in which it appears in our blank verse, are questions still left *sud judice.*

INSTANCES OF HORNED MEN AND WOMEN.

HORNY excrescences arising from the human head have not only occurred in Great Britain, but have been met with in several other parts of Europe; and the horns themselves have been deposited as valuable curiosities in the first collections in Europe.

Mrs. Longsdale, a woman fifty-six years old, a native of Horncastle, in Lincolnshire, some years ago, observed a moveable tumor on the left side of her head, about

two inches above the upper arch of the left ear, which gradually increased in the course of four or five years to the size of a pullet's egg, when it burst, and for a week continued to discharge a thick, gritty fluid. In the centre of the tumor, after the fluid was discharged, she perceived a small soft substance, of the size of a pea, and of a reddish colour on the top, which at that time she took for proud flesh. It gradually increased in length and thickness, and continued pliable for about three months, when it first began to put on a horny appearance. In two years and three months from its first formation, made desperate by the increased violence of the pain, she attempted to tear it from her head and with much difficulty, and many efforts, at length broke it in the middle, and afterwards tore the root from her head, leaving a considerable depression, which still remains, in the part where it grew. Its length altogether is about five inches, and its circumference at the two ends about one inch; but in the middle rather less. It is curled like a ram's horn contorted, and in colour much resembling isinglass.

From the lower edge of the depression another horn is now growing, of the same colour with the former, in length about three inches, and nearly the thickness of a small goose quill; it is less contorted, and lies close upon the head.

A third horn, situated about the upper part of the lambdoidal suture, is much curved, above an inch in length, and more in circumference at its root: its direction is backwards, with some elevation from the head. At this place two or three successive horns have been produced, which she has constantly torn away; but, as fresh ones have speedily followed, she leaves the present one unmolested in hopes of its dropping off.

Besides these horny excrescences, there are two tumours, each the size of a large cockle; one upon the upper part, the other about the middle of the left side of the head; both of them admit of considerable motion, and seem to contain fluids of unequal consistence; the upper one affording an obscure fluctuation, the other an evident one.

The four horns were all preceded by the same kind of incysted tumours, and the fluid in all of them was gritty; the openings from which the matter issued were very small, the cysts collapsed and dried up, leaving the substance from which the horn proceeded distinguishable, at the bottom. These cysts gave little pain till the horns began to shoot, and then became very distressing, and continued with short intervals till they were removed.

To be continued.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS, IN AUGUST.

Authors and publishers are requested to communicate notices of their works, post paid, and they will always be inserted, free of expence.

THE first and second volumes of Anacharsis' Travels....Jacob Johnson, by subscription.

Juvenilia, or a collection of poems, written between the ages of twelve and sixteen, by J. H. L. Hunt....Maxwell. 87 cents.

The Refuge, by the author of the Guide to Domestic Happiness..... Woodward. 1 dollar.

A New Collection of Dr. Goldsmith's Essays, containing several not included in any former collection, 2 vols. 12mo....Conrad & co. 1 dol. 50 cents.

Hamiltoniad, or the effects of discord, an *original* poem....Hogan, 37 cents.

The Life and Military Achievments of Touissant Louverture, late general in chief of the armies of St. Domingo....For the author.

The third volume of Montifieore's Commercial Dictionary.....Humphries.

Reports of Cases, argued and adjudged in the supreme court of

the United States, in August and December terms, 1801, and February term, 1803, vol. 1, by William Cranch, assistant judge of the circuit court of the district of Columbia....Conrad & co. 5 dollars.

An Abstract of those Laws of the United States, which relate chiefly to the duties and authority of the judges of the inferior state courts, and the justices of the peace throughout the Union, with an appendix containing a variety of useful precedents, by Samuel Bayard, Esq....For the author, New York. 2 dols. 25 cents.

Smith's Wealth of Nations, 2 vols. 8vo....Oliver D. Cooke, Hartford. 4 dollars.

An Oration before the New York Society of the Cincinnati, commemorative of the late Major-General Alexander Hamilton, by J. M. Mason, D. D....G. F. Hopkins, New York. 37 cents.

Particulars of the late duel, fought at Hoboken, between Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton, Esqrs..... Forman, New York. 25 cents.

Goldsmith's Natural History, abridged, for the use of schools, 2 vols. 12mo. plates....Johnson. 2 dols. 50 cents.

Terrible Tractoration, revised, corrected, and augmented, by the author....Stansbury, New York. 1 dollar.

Pinkerton's Modern Geography, a description of the empires, kingdoms, states, and colonies, with the oceans, seas, isles, in all parts of the world; including the most recent discoveries and political alterations, digested on a new plan. The astronomical introduction by the Rev. S. Vince, A. M. F. R. S. &c. The article America corrected and considerably enlarged by Dr. Barton, of Philadelphia, 2 vols. royal 8vo. and a quarto atlas, containing 65 maps, drawn by Arrowsmith and Lewis.... Conrad & co. 15 dollars.

IN THE PRESS.

Wakefield's Family Tour through Great Britain....J. Johnson.

Jacobs' Law Dictionary, corrected and revised by Collinson Reed, Esq. ....Byrne & Hudson.

The Pennsylvania Farmer, a new agricultural work, by Job Roberts.... J. Johnson.

The Poetical Works of James Thomson, with an Essay on the Seasons, by J. Aiken, M. D.....Johnsons.

Akenside's Poems....Johnsons.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TO our valuable correspondent near Gray's Ferry, our respectful gratitude is due for his favours. The poem handed to us lately, possesses merit superior to those that have preceded it, and shall receive honourable place in our next number.

The author of elegiac verses on Alexander Hamilton, is earnestly exhorted to indulge *his* poetical vein without reserve. Nothing which his genius can coin can ever be spurious or exploded with men of true poetical taste.

The letter, in answer to some remarks on the first volume of Washington, entitles the writer to our thanks, and shall receive early insertion.

The translator of verses from the French, possesses a happy genius for the gay, sportive, and tender. The editor would deem himself fortunate if he could by any means stimulate this estimable correspondent to the frequent exercise of the pen, both in prose and verse. He will see that, in the present number, a liberty has been taken with him, with which, it is feared, he will be displeased. The editor must arm himself against this displeasure by the approbation of every other reader, who must deem themselves under obligations to one who has thus, though unintentionally, supplied them with the most delightful banquet. His poetry shall appear in our next.